PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT

1905-1906

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PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT,
1905-1906.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1905-1906.

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REPORT

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1905-06.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(The "year" throughout this report is not invariably the financial year ending 31st March 1906. At the heading of each chapter, with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1906, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1905, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1905.

The Administration Report for 1901-02 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.)

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel of the Administration.

1. Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I., held charge of the office of the Lieutenant-Governor from the 28th of April 1905 to the 19th of October 1905 during the absence on leave of Sir Charles Rivaz, K.C.S.I.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

The Kangra earthquake.

2. On the 4th of April 1905 the hill country round about Kángra was devastated by a disastrous earthquake, which levelled to the ground nearly every building within an area of 700 square miles, and in which twenty thousand souls perished. Among the killed were 25 out of the 76 European inhabitants of Dharmsála, including nearly the whole civil staff, and 112 of the 7th Gurkhas. (The one bright feature to redeem the darkness

of the tragedy was the admirable way in which the survivors turned to the task of extricating and relieving the living and paying the last offices to the dead, and at the same time of preserving order, among a panic-stricken people, in circumstances which in more advanced communities have led to the temporary paralysis of all government. No time was lost in pushing up relief parties from the plains, and in a week medical relief stations had been established at five centres; in a fortnight the treasuries were opened, and the machinery of Government was once more in motion. For the relief of distress consequent on the destruction of property generous provision was made by Government: revenue and taxation were remitted, irrigation channels repaired, and grants of timber for the rebuilding of houses and liberal advances of money were made: and at the same time private charity contributed over thirteen and a half lakhs for the relief of distress which lay beyond the province of Government to provide for.)

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

Political.

3. Festivities were held at Delhi, Amritsar and Lahore, in connection with the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to the province, and all the principal Chiefs who were not unavoidably absent had the honour of presentation to His Royal Highness. In PATIALA the Council of Regency continued to work with efficiency. Settlement operations are progressing well. An Act and rules for the Registration of Transport Animals have been framed on the lines of those obtaining in the Punjab, and a similar scheme has been inaugurated in JIND. His Highness the Rája of NABHA enjoyed fairly good health during the year, which was signalised by the marriage of His Highness's daughter with the Maháráj Rána of Dholpur. In BAHAWALPUR the powers of His Highness the Nawáb have been extended by the rescission of the order requiring him to submit sentences of death for the confirmation of the Political Agent. The final settlement of the boundary disputes with the British districts of Multán and Montgomery is in train of accomplishment. Rája Bhowáni Sen was formally installed on the *gaddi* of MANDI in October 1905. The State suffered considerably from the earthquake, the death roll numbering about 1,500 souls, and the town of Mandi was reduced to ruins. Rája Balbír Singh of FARIDKOT died in February 1906, and his nephew Brij Indar Singh was installed on the *gaddi* in the following month. His Highness Rája Bhure Singh of CHAMBA was invested with the dignity of Knighthood of the Order of the Star of India: the *ex*-Rája, Rája Shám Singh, died on June 10th, 1905. Considerable damage was done by the earthquake in BASHAHR. One district of the State was throughout the year in rebellion, and a strong police force had to be despatched in the summer of 1906 to deal with the rebels. The chiefs of MADHAN, KUMHAR and BIJA died, and heirs were born to DHUDHI, DHAMI, KUTHAR and TAROCH. The Dera Ghází Khan frontier maintained a condition of complete tranquility.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Land revenue.

4. In spite of a poor autumn harvest in 1904, the spring crop of 1905 was so excellent a one as to bring the whole year's outturn to well above normal; and 199 lakhs or over 95 per cent. of the fixed land revenue

demand for the year were collected, besides more than 7 lakhs on account of previous years. The actual deficiencies in collection on account of the year's demand only amounted to half a lakh, the remaining balance of eight lakhs being accounted for partly by suspensions, partly by remissions due to the earthquake in Kángra, and partly by sums struck off on account of the change from fixed to fluctuating assessments. Over $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs were suspended, but a good deal of that suspended in the autumn was collected in the spring. A regular fluctuating assessment was substituted for a fixed assessment in two tahsíls of Gujránwála which are irrigated from the Chenab Canal, causing a rise in the fluctuating revenue demand which was partly counteracted by the bad running of the inundation canals in Multán and Montgomery. The system of fluctuating assessment seems to be growing in favour in poor and insecure villages, which have indeed all to gain by its adoption.

There was a considerable increase under the head of miscellaneous land revenue, chiefly due to the unexpected success of the sale of land in the Chunián colony. The recent quinquennial assessment of grazing dues in Montgomery resulted in an enhancement, but a nominal decrease is shown this year, as the collection was kept over pending the decision of appeals against the assessment. The decrease in coercive processes for the collection of land revenue is maintained. The services of zaildárs are being used more freely than before for the collection of land revenue, with the best results, and the use of money orders for remittances of revenue continues to grow in favour.

5. Survey work was carried on in Multán and Muzaffargarh and riverain traverses on the Indus, Jhelum, Rávi and Sutlej. Many long standing disputes have been settled by the laying down of a permanent boundary on the Sutlej between Montgomery and the State of Baháwalpur : the local work was completed during 1904-05 and the boundary laid down has since, except in a few cases, been affirmed. The boundary on the Sutlej between Baháwalpur and Multán is still under consideration. The work of laying down fixed riverain boundaries between British districts was continued on the Chenab, Sutlej and Rávi. The Government of the United Provinces felt unable to assent to the project of a fixed boundary on the Jumna. Surveys.

6. At the beginning of 1904-05 six settlements were in progress in the Punjab,—those of Jhang, Háfizabad, Ráwalpindi, Miánwáli, Gurgaon and Dera Ismail Khan ; and that of Karnál was started in October 1904. No settlement was completed during the year, but that of Jhang was brought near completion and has since come to an end, and that of Dera Ismail Khan ceased to exist as a separate charge by the division of the part on which orders had not been passed between the administration of the North-West Frontier Province and the Settlement Officer of Miánwáli. The supervision by the Settlement Commissioner of settlement operations in the Frontier Province is now confined to Hazára, where the settlement is expected to close shortly. The settlements of Rohtak, Hissar and Delhi were started since the close of 1904-05, but that of Ambála, for which a forecast was submitted, has been deferred for five years. Settleme

Land records.

7. Successful endeavours have been made to decrease the number of patwári candidates, who had become so numerous as to threaten to block promotion; the educational qualifications of patwárís continue to improve, but there seems to be a decline in the proportion of both candidates and patwárís who are agriculturists by birth. Proposals have been made to increase the retiring gratuities to patwárís in the hope of attracting a better class of men and at the same time of enabling inefficient workers to be the more easily discharged. The prospects of the kánúngo service were materially improved by a substantial increase of pay all round, and the service has been well treated in the matter of promotion to higher posts. A scheme has been completed for the reorganization of the district record-room establishments. Discussion of the condition of the provincialised patwár fund is rendered unnecessary by the abolition of the patwár rate, and with it of the fund, which took place on 1st April 1906. All expenditure formerly met from the patwár fund is now charged to provincial revenues. Mutations of title continued to increase, both because of deaths from plague, and on account of special measures taken to remove the names of absentees. The work was well kept in hand, and the pending file, though slightly larger than that of last year, is no more than an average of three cases per village. The pending file of partitions is larger than it was.

Colonies.

8. There were four canal colonies in which colonization operations were being carried on during 1904-05; the great Lower Chenab and Lower Jhelum colonies under their respective Colonization Officers, the Chunián colony under the Deputy Commissioner of Lahore, and a collection of scattered plots in the Jhang district which were being colonised by the Settlement Officer. The colonization of the Lower Chenab colony is now drawing towards its close, and its special administration will, it is expected, be merged with the ordinary district administration in 1907. Over one and four-fifths million acres have been allotted, and an extension on the Dang Ali branch is now being distributed, while proposals are being prepared for further extensions to be known as the Burála and Kabírwála extensions, on the latter of which is to be an irrigated forest of between 70 and 80 square miles in area. The grants made to village headmen on mule-breeding conditions have proved a most successful experiment, and other grantees have been encouraged to take to mule-breeding on their own account, while a large number of mares have been branded for horse-breeding. Land on the Dang Ali extension is being allotted on camel service terms, and the strength of the camel service grantee camels has been raised to 4 corps. A good area was sown in 1904-05—in fact a far greater proportion of the area allotted than the soil can bear, and it is proposed to cut down the percentage of area that may be irrigated. The failure of the cotton crop in the succeeding year made large remissions of revenue necessary. On the Lower Jhelum canal over three hundred thousand acres had been distributed by the end of the year 1904-05; the culturable land still unallotted is not so much as was expected; and it will not be possible to satisfy all prospective grantees on this colony. All peasant grantees on horse-breeding conditions have, however, been supplied with good land: and these grantees are turning out a really good class of horse. A horse fair has been started at Sargodha, which promises to become one of the most important in Northern India.

Ten allotments made for regimental stud farms are being worked successfully. Colonization on the Chunián colony was nearly brought to an end, and progress was made with the distribution of the plots of the Jhang colony, which were being allotted partly in compensation for land taken by Government and partly to local landowners.

9. Of the five million acres of Government waste not under colonization, about a fiftieth was leased for temporary cultivation, the rest being only fit for grazing. The silladar camel corps have been assigned five plots of waste in Montgomery as a grazing ground. Good work has been done in counteracting the destructive effect of the hill torrents in Hoshiárpur by reafforestation. Other Government waste.

10. Three estates held under the Court of Wards were released entirely and one partially during the year, and a total of six lakhs of debts was extinguished. It appears easier to save wards' money than to spend it, and the problem of finding satisfactory investments remains unsolved. Wards' estates.

11. The fourth year of the working of the Land Alienation Act justifies the hopes entertained at its inception that it would operate to restrict wasteful and extravagant expenditure, while the steadily rising price of land gives no support to the fears once entertained that the value of land would suffer any serious and permanent depreciation. Moreover, while the cultivators have apparently had no real difficulty in obtaining money for their legitimate needs, the capital which used to be squandered unproductively is being diverted to industrial employment. The anomaly of the statutory agriculturist will probably shortly be abolished. Land Alienation Act.

12. Progress continues to be made in persuading holders of jágírs to accept the rule of primogeniture, and especially good work has been done in Karnál, where difficulties of a serious nature had to be overcome. The Sikh jágírdárs of Ambála, however, still demur to accepting the rule, more, it is said, from reluctance to take the invidious step of preferring one son before his brothers, than from any objection to the principle of primogeniture. Descent of Jagirs Act.

PROTECTION.

13. The only Act of the Punjab Legislature passed during the year was IV of 1905 amending the Punjab Land Preservation (*Chos*) Act. Of Indian Acts applying to the Punjab the most important are those amending the Court Fees and Stamp Acts. Legislation.

14. The scarcity and high prices which prevailed during a great part of the year caused a recrudescence of crime, which after two normal years reverted to a state of affairs similar to that of 1902. The increase was most marked in offences against property, but there were but few cases of real gang robbery, and in only two districts did the operations of organised gangs cause serious unrest. Thefts of arms were more frequent than in last year, but cattle theft, as usual in years of scarcity, decreased. Serious offences against the person showed a slight increase. In the prosecution of the more important classes of offences the police have obtained a very fair measure of success. The Finger Print Bureau has continued to effect Police.

an increase in the numbers of old offenders detected and two more Native States have adopted the system. Preventive action against persons of bad livelihood has been conducted with greater discrimination than formerly, being directed against the leaders of crime rather than its rank and file, with a reduction in the number of prosecutions but an increase in their effectiveness. The practice of referring cases to *jirgas* of tribesmen has continued to produce good results in Miánwáli and Dera Ghází Khan, and good work has been done throughout the province in enlisting the sympathy and support of local gentry in the suppression of crime. Important changes were made in the pay and organization of the police force in consequence of the recommendations of the Police Commission.

Criminal Justice.

15. In addition to the real increase of crime due to scarcity, a large increase of offences reported was due to the institution of false and frivolous charges, which in one district alone took up as much time as would represent the working hours of one Magistrate for the year. The percentage of convictions to trials fell from 27 to 25, and in the district referred to was only 10. All subordinate courts have been reminded of the necessity for the stricter use of the provisions of the Code which give the power to dismiss complaints summarily and to award compensation for frivolous accusations. The Punjab continues to show a high percentage of successful appeals.

Prisons.

16. A slight increase in the number of prisoners admitted to jail was due to under-trial prisoners; the number of convicts fell, and the average daily population was the lowest since 1896. The rules governing admission to the Delhi Reformatory have been relaxed, and it is hoped that this will result in more advantage being taken of this institution than has hitherto been the case. Good work has been done at two central jails in the mental and physical training of adolescent convicts. As regards sentences, short terms of six months and under represent more than half the total, but long-term prisoners are being received in increasing numbers. Only 14 per cent. of the prisoners admitted were recognised as having been previously convicted, and it is believed that many prisoners still escape identification. The discipline of the jails was satisfactory; and although the imposition of fetters for purposes of safe custody is much less common than formerly, only one prisoner succeeded in escaping. Offences fell by a tenth, and two-thirds of those committed were offences relating to work. The punishment most in vogue is the imposition of fetters, which accounts for two-thirds of the major punishments inflicted; the use of corporal punishment continues to decline, and it is now only employed as a last resort. The health of the jails was excellent, the death-rate being the lowest but one on record, and only just over half that of males between 20 and 60 in the province.

Civil Justice.

17. The decrease in civil litigation which has appeared during the last few years becomes this year a sharp drop of over a quarter in the number of institutions. The decrease is almost entirely confined to suits for personal property, and is undoubtedly due to the extension in 1904 of the period of limitation of suits for money lent from three to six years; whether the effect will be permanent cannot be seen until 1907, when the suits thus extended begin to mature. Another cause is the Land Alienation Act of 1900, which in

five years has reduced suits by money-lenders against agriculturists by two-fifths. There is an increase in matrimonial suits attributed to the scarcity of women caused by the disproportionately high plague mortality among them. The average value of suits continues to rise, and the number of suits for sums under Rs. 100 to decrease, but against the decrease of petty suits for personal property must be set a rise in suits of an intricate and contentious character. The average time taken over suits contested and uncontested alike has in each case decreased by one day, a result at first sight rather disappointing in view of the decrease of institutions, but explained by the fact that that decrease is confined to the simplest and shortest class of cases. Executions still are prone to lag some way after decrees, and still only a quarter of the total amount decreed is realized. Although appeals in the courts of District Judges have fallen off, the appellate work in Divisional Courts is increasing and the work both civil and criminal that these courts are called on to perform demands in the interests both of the courts and of the public an increase in the number of Civil Divisions. Orders have been issued by the Chief Court which have materially increased the effectiveness of the control exercised by District Judges over the estates of wards under the Guardians and Wards Act.

Registration.

18. The number of documents compulsorily presented for registration showed a slight decrease, but their value rose by 20 lakhs. The rise in the value of land and the increased confidence felt in this form of property appear to have stimulated sales, which increased by 14½ lakhs; mortgages on the other hand decreased, as also did gifts and leases. Optional registrations of immoveable property show a continued decline.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

District Boards and Municipalities.

19. The working of district boards has been entirely uneventful. A district board was created for the new district of Lyallpur. As little interest as ever was taken in the elections, but it is hoped that the distribution of the annual grant of 6½ lakhs in aid of district board finances will, by widening the field of usefulness of these bodies hitherto circumscribed by lack of funds, give a new interest to members in the performance of their duties. In municipal administration the principal feature of the year has been the adoption by all municipalities in the province of a standard code of accounts. This code, besides providing simply and sufficiently for the control of expenditure, has remodelled the system of collection of octroi, in particular by requiring refunds to be given on all exports without demanding proof of previous import. The increased supervision that can be exercised under the new code is expected generally to raise the proceeds of the tax so as to more than counterbalance the extra cost of the new system, though smaller municipalities may find it advisable to substitute for octroi some less expensive form of taxation. There are however many small municipalities whose administration could be more economically and satisfactorily managed by the reduction of their status to that of notified areas. The local audit of municipal accounts has disclosed serious irregularities in 16 municipalities, and has also been of service in stimulating local interest in municipal administration.

AGRICULTURE, WEATHER AND CROPS.

Operations of the Department of Agriculture.

20. The year has been marked by the organization of the Provincial Agricultural Department under a Director of Agriculture whose head-quarters have been fixed at Lyallpur, the centre of the Chenab colony. Here is to be built an agricultural college and research institute, with a staff of experts, while the existing experimental farm at Lyallpur is to be extended, and another large farm created for the Eastern Punjab, besides smaller farms for tracts whose conditions are peculiar. It is hoped that the establishment of the new department will include a trained expert for agricultural work in each district. Good work has been done with experimental cultivation in the existing farms at Sargodha and Lyallpur, especially with the classification of varieties of wheat and with the introduction of acclimatised American cotton. Progress has also been made in certain districts with the selection and distribution of seed of the best lint-producing varieties of indigenous cotton.

The Veterinary Department.

21. The Punjab Veterinary College has had transferred to it the native teaching staff and students of the Ajmer Veterinary College, and substantial improvements in accommodation have been carried out or sanctioned. There is a great demand for graduates of the college. Three veterinary hospitals were opened during the year, making 12 of these institutions, which are rapidly growing in public favour. There was very little foot and mouth disease in the province, and the year was on the whole a healthy one in spite of serious outbreaks of *surra* in two districts.

Agricultural pests.

22. Boll-worm made its appearance to a quite abnormal extent in the autumn of 1905, and almost entirely destroyed the cotton crop in the Central and South-West Punjab. The cause of this calamity was apparently the destruction by the frosts of the preceding winter of the parasite which keeps this pest in check. Measures were taken throughout the affected tracts to prevent, at any rate in part, the recurrence of the calamity by ploughing up and burning the old cotton stalks, sowing trap crops and reintroducing the parasite.

Loans to agriculturists and co-operative credit societies.

23. The Kángra earthquake necessitated large advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act in 1904-05; the amounts advanced by Government were otherwise normal. The practice of personal distribution of loans by responsible officers is growing in favour, and is much appreciated by the people who are thereby saved a great deal of trouble and delay. There has been a considerable growth of co-operative credit societies; within 18 months from the first appointment of the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies 151 of these societies have been registered, a start which augurs well for the prospects of this form of self-help among the peasantry.

Prices.

24. Prices ruled high, being affected throughout the year by scarcity in other parts of India, but actual scarcity was confined to the Delhi division. Scarcity in the United Provinces kept up prices in June and July 1905, and the apparent failure of the monsoon sent them up sharply to a still higher point; and though the September rains steadied them somewhat, they remained high throughout the autumn. There was another sharp rise in February, and though they declined after the February rains, they continued to average above warning rates.

25. The monsoon of 1905 was a partial failure owing to a break from the middle of July to the middle of September. In consequence, the autumn harvest was one of the poorest on record, and in addition to the loss caused by drought, boll-worm ravaged the cotton crop, and the sowings of sugarcane were very small owing to scarcity of seed. There was a deluge of rain in September, and this, though too late to save the unirrigated autumn crops, enabled very extensive sowings to be made for the spring. The spring crop, though threatened by a period of drought early in the year, was saved by opportune rain in the middle of February, and gave the largest matured area on record, the wheat crop being particularly fine. Weather and crops.

26. Fair progress has been made in the past three years in planting wayside trees, and an advance in this direction is now looked for from the grant of 1½ lakhs which has been set aside for this purpose. The nurseries in the horticultural gardens at Lahore have been extended to meet the large demand for fruit and other trees, which at present exceeds the supply. Arboriculture.

FORESTS.

27. Forest offences show a tendency to increase. Numerically there is a decrease of cases of injury by fire, but there was a serious outbreak of incendiarism in Kángra where nearly 26 square miles of forest were burnt. Complaint is made of the injury done by the camels of the silladar and other camel corps in the forests thrown open to them for browsing. Management.

28. Nine and three-quarter million cubic feet of timber were removed from the forests, nearly two and a half times the amount of the preceding year. This is due to increased sales to purchasers in the Chamba, Bashahr and Multán divisions, and increased removals by right-holders and by Government agency in Kángra and Kulu on account of earthquake relief. The amount of fuel and minor produce removed was much the same as last year. The net surplus revenue was 5·1 lakhs, a decrease of 4·2 lakhs, due partly to the commencement of the new lease on more liberal terms of the Chamba State forests, and partly to the cessation of exploitation in Kulu on account of the earthquake. Exploitation and financial results.

MINES AND QUARRIES.

29. The output of coal increased considerably, the greater part coming, as usual, from the Dandot mine. Four other mines produced coal,—two in Jhelum and one in Attock opened in 1904 and one in Shahpur opened in 1905. The issues of salt remained steady at about 2⅔ million maunds, chiefly from the Khewrah depôt. Coal and salt.

MANUFACTURES.

30. The only marked feature in the history of industries for the year is the growth of factories for ginning, cleaning and pressing cotton. The arrangements for the health and safety of the operatives were generally good, and they appear in most cases to earn higher wages than those paid to ordinary labourers. Factories.

TRADE.

Trade with other provinces and States in India.

31. The effect of scarcity in Rájpútána and Central India was to check the export of wheat to Karáchi, which is the principal feature of Punjab trade, and to stimulate to a certain extent the movement of inferior food-grains to the eastward. The export of wheat fell by 11½ million maunds, and that of other grains rose by over two million. Altogether the exports from the province decreased by close on eight million maunds, but owing to the high prices obtained for foodstuffs, their value only fell by 29 lakhs. There was a rise of ten million maunds in the weight of the goods imported, and their value rose by the remarkable amount of 466½ lakhs, a fact which shows that the purchasing power of the province was not at all impaired by the partial failure of the crops. Piece-goods, both European and Indian, oil-seeds, sugar and railway materials show the greatest increase; the import of refined sugar was largely stimulated by freight concessions offered by foreign shipping companies, and the destruction of seed by the frosts of January 1904 caused a large increase in the imports of crude sugar.

Trans-frontier trade.

32. The great bulk of trans-frontier trade is with Kashmír, which shows a considerable increase, both in imports and exports. The trade with Afghánistán, encouraged by the liberal policy of the Amír, continues to increase; that with Ladákh and with Chinese Tibet has decreased. As regards Ladákh, it appears that the British trade in piece-goods is being rapidly killed by Russian competition and the extension of Russian railways, and that the war, so far from weakening Russian trade in Central India, has diverted thither a great deal of merchandise which would normally have gone to the Far East. The increase in the duty of *charas* has considerably disorganised the trade in this drug, and raw silk seems to be taking its place as a medium of exchange.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

General.

33. There was an increase of nine in the number of joint stock companies; most of the new companies, it must be said, appear to combine in the same venture objects of the most miscellaneous character. Cotton mills take up one-third of the paid-up capital in the province, which amounts to 106 lakhs of rupees, and banking and insurance nearly a quarter. Nine lakhs have been invested in trading companies, which unfortunately contain many bogus and fraudulent associations. There is only one indigenous insurance company. Its financial position has been adversely criticised by the Registrar.

PUBLIC WORKS.

34. The outlay on Provincial Civil Works for the year, excluding that on repairs, was 25⅛ lakhs, of which 15⅔ were for buildings, 5 for communications and 4⅔ for miscellaneous public improvements. No new buildings of special importance were completed, but progress was made with providing new courts, offices and police stations throughout the province. Official quarters have been built for Government officers in several districts, and in Lahore a number of detached cottages have been built as quarters for clerks employed in the Secretariat. Under the head of communications the most important improvement is the extension of the driving road from Simla to Mashobra, with the widening of the old dangerous Sanjauli tunnel. Miscellaneous

public improvements include new roads and tunnels at Simla, made with the object of keeping the mall free from cooly and mule traffic, and the improvement of the mall at Lahore. A great deal of labour was thrown on the Public Works Department in repairing the damage done to buildings and roads by the earthquake in Kángra. The Indus is again endangering the town of Dera Gházi Khan and has caused serious erosion.

RAILWAYS.

Construction and traffic.

35. Several important extensions were made to the railway system of the Punjab during 1905 and the first few months of 1906. The main line was doubled between Lahore and Amritsar, and two new lines were completed, one linking Malakwál with Shorkot Road and opening up the Lower Jhelum colony, and the other from Ludhiána through Ferozepore to McLeod Ganj on the Southern Punjab Railway, which enables the trade of the Central Punjab to have a direct route to Karáchi without passing through Lahore. A line was begun and has since been partly opened from Amritsar to Patti, and work was started on another between Sángla and Shahdara. There was an increase both in the passenger and goods traffic on the North-Western Railway, but comparatively little wheat was carried, and the working of the railway as a whole was not so profitable as in the preceding year. The Kálka-Simla line was taken over by Government in 1906. Schemes for the construction of electric tramways at Lahore, Delhi and Amritsar are in different stages of maturity.

IRRIGATION.

General progress.

36. A start has been made with the construction of the important Upper Jhelum and Upper Chenab projects, and extensions are in progress on the Lower Chenab, Bari Doab and other canals A very large area—over 6,900,000 acres—was irrigated by the canals of the province, but owing to the large remissions that had to be made on account of the destruction of the cotton crop by boll-worm, the financial results were not so good as they would otherwise have been. Still in spite of this, the Lower Chenab canal paid nearly 21 per cent. on the capital invested, the Bari Doab 11 per cent. and the Western Jumna nearly 10 per cent. Taken together, productive works paid 11 per cent. on the capital invested, which by the end of the year had reached over 1,100 lakhs of rupees, and the net profit after paying interest was 79 lakhs.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure of the Punjab.

37. The revenue raised in the province in 1905-06 was less by nearly $38\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs than in the preceding year. The decrease is distributed through nearly all the heads of Revenue, Excise and Opium, with an increase of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, being the only important exception. The most striking decreases are under Land Revenue ($22\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs), Irrigation ($8\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs), and Salt (nearly 6 lakhs). The decrease under Irrigation is due to the large remissions made on account of damage done to the cotton crop by boll-worm, and this cause and the suspensions made on account of the bad autumn harvest of 1905 probably

account for the decrease under Land Revenue. The falling-off under Salt is due to the reduction of duty which took place in March 1905. The increase under Opium and Excise Revenue is chiefly due to the rise in still-head duty on spirits, attributed to an increase of consumption of licit liquor in the chief liquor consuming districts where the experiment has been made of supplying cheap spirit. Expenditure (excluding that of the Military Railway Post and Telegraph Departments and Capital Expenditure on Canals) increased by nearly 32 lakhs. The most important increases were 9½ lakhs for Public Works, 7 lakhs for Education, and 5⅓ for Police, showing that, thanks in large measure to assistance from Imperial revenues, large provision is being made for these important needs of the country.

Local Funds and Municipal revenues.

38. The failure of the autumn harvest of 1905 caused large suspensions of land revenue to be made, resulting in a considerable decrease in the income of district boards derived from Provincial rates; there were slight increases under other heads of income, notably on account of successful sales at cattle fairs in certain districts, but altogether the income of district boards fell by a lakh and three-quarters. Under expenditure there was an increase of a lakh for education due to the opening of new primary schools towards which an assignment of three lakhs is made by the Government of India; there were also substantial increases for cattle-breeding, gardens and civil works. A decrease of nearly 2½ lakhs under the head of contributions, due chiefly to the special grants for primary education, resulted in the net increase of expenditure as shown in the accounts being only half a lakh. No district board overdrew its balance. There has been a decrease of municipal income by nearly 2¼ lakhs, chiefly under taxation. Expenditure rose by half a lakh; there was a large increase for administration due to the expenditure necessitated by the introduction of the new system of collecting octroi, and for public health and convenience caused by large drainage and other works in a few big towns. There was a decrease under public instruction due to the provincialization of the schools at the head-quarters of districts. The financial position of indebted municipalities is sound.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births and deaths.

39. There was a rise in the birth-rate to 44·5 *per mille*, a result due, it is probable, to the immunity from autumnal sickness which the Punjab enjoyed in 1904. The chief feature in the mortality returns is plague, which alone killed nearly 16·6 *per mille* and brought the total death-rate up to 47·5, now for the fourth year the highest in India. The death-rate from fever was the same as last year; both cholera and small-pox claimed very few victims, and no other diseases deserve special mention. There were a large number of deaths from injuries due to the Kángra earthquake.

Plague.

40. The severe cold of the earlier months of 1905 with the long dry summer followed by an early winter formed conditions unfavourable to plague which showed a slight decrease from the preceding year. Nevertheless over 335,000 died in British territory and nearly 55,000 in Native States, and the disease was epidemic throughout the province except in the Himálayás and in the west and south-west. In Rohtak and Gurgaon the mortality from this cause alone was 50 and 39 respectively *per mille*, and in nine other

districts it was over 20 *per mille.* Rat destruction is chief among the measures of prevention that are being adopted, and has been carried out with success in over 3,000 towns and villages which were considered to be centres of probable infection. Disinfection by heat or by chemicals was also largely resorted to; inoculation was only popular where there was immediate danger.

41. There is an increase in the number of primary vaccinations, but an unfortunate prejudice seems to exist against secondary vaccination, especially in the case of females, and this forms a serious obstacle to preventive work. **Vaccination.**

SANITATION.

42. There is a good list given in the body of the report of sanitary improvements sanctioned or carried out. Of those sanctioned, the most important is the Ludhiána Water-Works scheme; the Amritsar Water-Works were handed over to the municipal committee during the year; and progress was made with drainage schemes in a number of towns. **General progress.**

MEDICAL RELIEF.

43. There was an increase in the number of in-patients treated at the hospitals of the province, especially among women. Out-patients decreased somewhat, as the year was a healthy one apart from plague. The number of operations is the largest yet recorded. A contagious hospital for Europeans was opened at Simla, and new hospitals were opened at Amritsar and Gujránwála besides six minor dispensaries. Mention is made of the excellent work done by hospitals and dispensaries for women maintained by various Christian missions. The Pasteur Institute at Kasauli continues to do its admirable work in saving life from one of the most distressing afflictions known to humanity. Lepers are cared for at seven asylums. **Hospitals and dispensaries.**

EDUCATION.

44. The year has been marked by a great advance in primary education. Special grants have enabled a large number of primary schools for girls and boys to be opened, and the number of pupils has increased proportionately. While the special zamíndári or agriculturists' schools have decreased in number, and seem likely to be superseded by the new type of village school, there is an increase in indigenous schools examined for grants, and these latter will, it is expected, be fostered by the new system by which collective have been substituted for individual standards of examination. Secondary schools for boys have increased by two, and there is a slight increase in the number of pupils. There has been an increase in the candidates who have offered themselves for the Entrance and equivalent examinations, but the percentage of passes was lower than in the preceding year. The tendency is noticed for the public to despise a purely vernacular education on account of the superior commercial value of even a smattering of English; but experience has shown that students, who have proceeded to an Anglo-Vernacular High School from a purely Vernacular Middle School, are better grounded than those who have taken up English at an earlier age. There has been a general increase in the numbers reading at the Arts Colleges. The attendance at the Law College has shown an almost unbroken decline for several years; that at the Medical College and **General progress.**

School fell this year, in the latter largely on account of the raising of the literary test to that of the Entrance examination. There has been a large increase of numbers at the Mayo School of Art, which has an excellent record of practical work turned out in connection with the Royal visit to India. Progress has been made in industrial and technical institutions in many parts of the province, and men are being trained as engineers, typists and shorthand writers in rapidly increasing numbers. The various training institutions are now sending out well equipped teachers, both men and women, and half the teachers in boys' schools are both trained and certificated. There has been steady progress in female education, and examination results are very satisfactory; the first batch of fully qualified teachers that has passed out of the Normal School for Women marks an important advance from which much is hoped. Large sums have been spent on European education; but the development of boys' schools is much retarded by the difficulty of obtaining suitable teachers, a problem which in the case of girls' schools is being solved by the training classes at St. Bede's College, Simla. The total expenditure on education was 49½ lakhs, an increase of over 8½ lakhs; provincial revenues contributed 20 lakhs of this, 6 lakhs more than in the previous year. Many of the recommendations of the Educational Conference held during the year have already been carried out, notably the opening of commercial classes in certain High Schools, changes in the scheme of studies, and the revision of the standards of examination in indigenous schools.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1. Physical Features of the Country, Area and Climate.

(See pages 1—12 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

2. Historical Summary.

(A sketch of the history of the Punjab up to the close of 1901-02 is given in the report for that year. It is not contemplated as a rule that this section should be written up except in the decennial report, but it is impossible to pass over without record an event of the importance of the Kángra earthquake.)

The Kangra earthquake.

1. On the 4th of April 1905 at the hour of six in the morning the district of Kángra and the neighbourhood was visited by an earthquake which in the extent of its ravages and the destruction wrought of life and property is without equal in the history of British India. The shock was felt most severely in that portion of the Kángra valley which lies between the Beás river on the south and the Dhaoli Dhár mountain range on the north, and between the fort of Rihlu on the west and the village of Baij Náth on the east. Within this area, roughly 700 square miles in extent and containing a population of about a quarter of a million, were included the civil station and cantonment of Dharmsála, the town, tahsíl and fort of Kángra, the small station of Pálampur, a tahsíl head-quarters and the centre of the tea industry, the town of Jowála Mukhi with its famous shrine, the important villages of Nagrota and Bhawárna, besides a large number of small hamlets. A preliminary tremor lasting a few seconds was all the warning that was received of the impending calamity. Then came a violent shock from north to south, and an equally violent return in the opposite direction, and in an instant almost every building in Dharmsála, Kángra and Pálampur was a flattened heap of ruins, and of the villages in the area visited by the full severity of the shock all to a greater or less degree met the same fate. At the early hour of the morning most of the people were still in their houses; some felt the preliminary tremors and escaped: of the rest many were killed outright by the falling masonry, and the others, some injured, some whole, had to wait till help came to extricate them. All supplies of food, clothes and medical appliances were alike buried beneath the fallen houses, and to the horrors of the disaster was added immediate want for the necessaries of life.

Loss of life and property.

2. In Dharmsála every building with four exceptions was levelled to the ground. Out of 76 Europeans present in the station, no less than 25 lives were lost, including Mr. Loxton, the District Judge, Messrs. Levi and Young, Assistant Commissioners, and Mr. Farley, Executive Engineer. The 7th Gurkhas lost 112 in officers and men. Seven Europeans were killed in Kángra and 4 in Pálampur tahsíl, and altogether the death roll in this tract was not under 15,000 souls. Eastward of the tract where the full force of the shock was felt, great damage was inflicted in the Kulu and Saráj tahsíls, Láhúl and Spiti, Mandi and Suket. The only large towns in this area are Mandi and Sultánpur, in each of which about 200 lives were lost. Outside the towns about 750 were killed in Mandi and rather more in the Kulu sub-division. The loss of cattle was very great. Altogether the earthquake caused loss of life estimated at not less than 20,000 souls in 409 villages; about 100,000 houses were levelled to the ground and over 13,000 plough cattle and nearly 40,000 other animals destroyed. Every tea garden in the district, the slate company and the fruit gardens of Kulu suffered severe losses of buildings, plant and machinery, and one result of the disaster has been that most of the tea gardens have passed into native hands, and that the little European community of Pálampur has been dispersed.

Measures for relief.

3. At the head-quarters of the district the survivors were confronted with a situation of the most distressing nature and one requiring all their energy and fortitude. Of those whose lives had been spared, some were buried beneath piles of masonry, many were in need of medical assistance, all wanted food and clothes; and the whole of Kángra beyond Núrpur as well as Mandi was cut off from telegraphic communication; of the four civil officers, three were killed outright and the fourth was in camp. Messengers were sent to Núrpur and Pathánkot with telegrams, which were delivered in Lahore early next day: a special train left Lahore that day, and on the 6th the first instalment of assistance including several medical officers reached Dharmsála. Meanwhile on the 4th and 5th the survivors of the European officers and the troops and police were working gallantly at the task of extricating the living and afterwards of removing and burying the bodies of the dead, in which work the Gurkhas did service beyond all praise. From the 7th help began to pour in daily; two companies of Pioneers reached Dharmsála on the 9th, and on the 12th the Sappers and Miners began work on the road between Shahpur and Pálampur. On the 13th two more companies of Pioneers started work at Kángra. At the same time supplies of food and tents were being pushed up from all directions. By the 9th temporary shops had been opened in many places, and by the 16th the grain stores of Kángra town had been opened. Much assistance was also given by native gentlemen who dispensed food and clothes freely and organised private relief parties. As has been said, medical assistance reached Dharmsála on the 7th; on that day officers were despatched to Kángra and Pálampur, and on the 10th medical relief centres had been established at five places, and welcome assistance was given by a Mission Medical Staff and by the Arya Samáj. By the 19th 16 hospitals were in full work. The treasuries were open at Pálampur on the 15th and at Dharmsála on the 18th. Thus in a district unserved by the railway with communication by road and telegraph interrupted and in the face of an appalling calamity sweeping away almost all its responsible officers, not only was order preserved from the first, but provision for relief of distress was established in under a week and the machinery of Government was working in a fortnight.

It would take too much space to detail the subsequent history of the measures taken to mitigate the effects of the disaster. One serious result of the earthquake was that the irrigation channels throughout the Pálampur and Kángra tahsíls had been destroyed, and many of these were reconstructed at the cost of Government by the troops. Land revenue to the extent of over a lakh-and-a-half was remitted, and no income tax was levied in the towns and villages severely affected. Liberal advances were given for the purchase of cattle to replace those destroyed by the earthquake, and arrangements were made for the supply of timber to the people free of payment or at favourable rates. The total Government expenditure caused by the earthquake was 15½ lakhs, of which 11½ were on account of temporary buildings and repairs or the restoration and rebuilding of Government property. Nor was public charity behind hand. A meeting of the citizens of Lahore was summoned on April 24th to inaugurate measures for the relief of the sufferers, and a subscription list was immediately opened which realised the magnificent sum of over thirteen-and-a-half lakhs. The three principles on which relief was distributed were (1) that the object of the fund was not to compensate for loss, but to relieve distress; (2) that in relieving distress no distinction should be made of race, creed or class; and (3) that the first claim on the fund was the immediate and temporary relief of actual want; the second, assistance in giving a fresh start in life, so far as funds might permit, to those who had lost their means of subsistence. Officers were lent by the Punjab Government to supervise the work of distribution which was completed by the end of the year. The losses of the military were specially relieved by a separate fund inaugurated by Lord Kitchener, and private relief parties organized by various Indian gentlemen performed the most valuable services.

3. Form of Administration.

(See pages 32—35 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 35—43 of the report for the year 1901-02 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5. Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 44 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 45—53 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

7. Changes in the Administration.

Personnel.

4. Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I., held charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor from the 28th of April 1905 to the 19th of October 1905 during the absence on leave of Sir Charles Rivaz, K.C.S.I. The death has to be recorded of the Hon'ble Mr. Alexander Anderson, C.I.E., officiating Financial Commissioner, who died on the 19th April 1905.

Area, population and revenue of the Punjab.

5. The area of the Province according to the last returns is 96,704 square miles, its population (census of 1901) 20,306,252, and the land revenue collections 241½ lakhs of rupees.

8. Relation with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Supervision.

6. The arrangements for the purposes of supervision of the Native States remain as they were at the time of the last report, the States being grouped as follows:—I. Patiála, Baháwalpur, Jínd and Nábha in the political charge of the Political Agent for the Phulkián States and Baháwalpur, who has his head-quarters at Patiála; II. Kapurthala, Mandi, Máler Kotla, Farídkot and Suket in the political charge of the Commissioner of Jullundur; III. Sirmur, Kalsia, Pataudi, Loháru and Dujána in the political charge of the Commissioner of Delhi; IV. Biláspur, Bashahr and other States in the Simla Hills in the political charge of the Superintendent of Hill States, who is also Deputy Commissioner of Simla; and V. Chamba in the political charge of the Commissioner of Lahore; to which may be added VI the frontier tribes of the Dera Ghází Khan district under the political charge of the Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ghází Khan. Full information will be found in the report for 1901-02 as to the statistics of each State.

PATIALA.

Area, 5,412 square miles; population, 1,596,692; gross revenue, Rs. 65,57,930; army and police, 5,522; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 14.

General progress.

7. The constitution of the Council of Regency remained unchanged. The Council continued to work with energy and efficiency. There was a poor autumn harvest, but, owing to the ample supply of water in the canals and copious winter rains, the crops on the whole were up to a good average. The increase in the water-rate has caused a substantial increase of revenue. Settlement operations continue to make satisfactory progress. Measurements have been completed except in the hill tracts, and assessments have been announced in five tahsíls. The finances of the State are in a flourishing condition, and the cash balance in hand at the close of the year was over nine lakhs. The Public Works Department has spent some 15 lakhs, 10 of which were on original works. There has been an increase of nearly 60,000 acres in the area irrigated and of over 4 lakhs in the canal revenue. There was slightly less plague than in the previous year, and much has been done in the way of prevention by the destruction of rats. The policing of the Rájpura-Bhatinda section of the railway was transferred from the State to the Punjab Railway Police on 1st April 1906. An Act and rules for the registration of transport have been framed by the Darbár, closely following the lines of those in the Punjab.

Personal.

8. His Highness Mahárája Bhupindra Singh enjoyed fairly good health during the year, and is reported to have made satisfactory progress with his studies at the Aitchison College. Mr. A. C. Sells has been his guardian throughout the year. It is to be regretted that Kanwar Sir Ranbír Singh, K.C.S.I., has been in indifferent health during the year, but it is hoped that his visit to Europe in company with Major James will result in complete convalescence. Both the Mahárája and the Kanwar Sáhib were present at Lahore and Amritsar on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 297,949; gross revenue, Rs. 14,71,539; army and police, 1,562; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 62.

Personal.

9. His Highness Rája Sir Híra Singh, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., has been in fairly good health throughout the year. He was present at the visits paid by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Lahore and Amritsar. The marriage of His Highness' daughter with the Maháráj Rána of Dholpur took place at Nábha on the 8th July.

General.

10. The agricultural year has on the whole been a fair one, and there has been less plague than usual. The building of *mandís* or markets has been carried on with vigour, and it is proposed to introduce electric power for working cotton factories.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 282,051; gross revenue, Rs. 12,49,000; army and police, 1,868; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 27.

General.

11. His Highness Rája Ranbír Singh was present at Lahore and Amritsar during the visits of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. There was some plague in the State, though less than last year, and the town of Jínd continued free from it. The Charkhi Dádri tract was threatened with famine, and Rs. 50,000 were sanctioned for relief works, but timely rain prevented any real distress. Under recent orders of Government the supply of water which will be passed into the Jínd distributaries of the Western Jumna Canal has been raised to an amount calculated to irrigate some 60,000 acres, about 10,000 more than before. A scheme for the registration of transport is now in force.

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population, 720,877; gross revenue, Rs. 26,00,000; army and police, 1,093; race of Chief, Daudputra; age of Chief, 22.

General.

12. His Highness the Nawáb Muhammad Baháwal Khán V was prevented by a sharp attack of fever from taking part in most of the ceremonies on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Lahore. The orders requiring him to submit sentences of death for the confirmation of the Political Agent have now been rescinded. Orders have been passed by Government on the question of the settlement of the riverain boundary with Multán and Montgomery, and the disputes are now all settled with the exception of a few cases remanded for further inquiry. Sanction has been given to the building of a large general hospital in Baháwalpur, and to an addition to the female hospital, and also of a new college building. The agricultural year has been prosperous, and there has been no plague in the State.

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 314,351; gross revenue, Rs. 20,00,000; army and police, 1,106: race of Chief, Ahlúwália Sikh; age of Chief, 33.

General.

13. His Highness the Rája returned from his visit to Europe in the beginning of November 1905, and was present at Lahore on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The Lieutenant-Governor paid a short visit to Kapúrthala in March 1906. Sardár Guláb Singh, Chief Secretary, died on April 2nd, 1905, and was succeeded by Díwán Bhagwán Dás. Plague prevailed more or less throughout the State.

MANDI.

Area, 12,000 square miles; population, 174,045; gross revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police, 172; race of Chief, Rájpút; age of Chief, 22; tribute, Rs. 1,00,000.

14. Rája Bhowáni Sen was formally invested by the Commissioner of Jullundur with the powers of a Ruling Chief at a Darbár held in Mandi on October 7th, 1905. The Rája came to Lahore for the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. At the time of the earthquake of April 4th, 1905, the Rája and Mr. Millar, the Superintendent, were in the dâk bungalow at Pálampur in the Kángra district and were buried in the ruins; both had a narrow escape and were extricated with difficulty. The loss of life in the State due to the earthquake was about 1,500 souls, and from the north-west border of the State to the town of Mandi—a distance of about 27 miles—nearly all houses were levelled, and the town of Mandi itself was reduced to ruins. Liberal relief was given by the Darbár, the poor being fed from the State granaries, while loans for the purchase of cattle and re-building of houses were freely granted. The estimated damage to State buildings was 5 lakhs and to roads and rest-houses about half a lakh. In consideration of these losses the Government of India remitted Rs. 1,20,000 of the nazarana payable on the succession of Rája Bhowáni Sen, and suspended the payment of the balance of one lakh till 1909. General.

SIRMUR.

Area, 1,198 square miles; population, 135,687; gross revenue, Rs. 6,00,000; army and police, 458; race of Chief, Rájpút; age of Chief, 39.

15. His Highness the Rája came to Delhi on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. General.

MALER KOTLA.

Area, 167 square miles; population, 77,506; gross revenue, Rs. 5,47,127; army and police, 356; race of Chief, Sherwáni Afghán; age of Chief, 48.

16. The State continues to be administered by the Regent Sáhibzáda Ahmad Ali Khán who attended the functions at Lahore on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as representative of the Nawáb. The Regent's younger brother Sáhibzáda Jafar Ali Khán was married on the 14th July 1905 to the daughter of Háji Muhammad Khán, Raís of Budhán in the Aligarh district. The crops of both harvests were good, and plague, though severe, was less than last year. General.

FARIDKOT.

Area, 642 square miles; population, 124,912, gross revenue, Rs. 3,56,250; army and police, 325; race of Chief, Barar Jat; age of Chief, 10.

17. Rája Balbír Singh died on February 4th, 1906, and the succession of his nephew and adopted heir Brij Indar Singh having been sanctioned by the Government of India, he was formally installed by the Commissioner of Jullundur at a Darbár held at Farídkot on March 15th, 1906. The young Rája being a minor, the administration of the State is carried on by means of a council of three. General.

CHAMBA.

Area, 3,216 square miles; population, 127,834; gross revenue, Rs. 7,39,196; army and police, 419; race of Chief, Rájpút; age of Chief, 37; tribute, Rs. 5,000.

18. His Highness Rája Bhure Singh was in January 1906 invested with the dignity of Knighthood of the Order of the Star of India. He was present at Lahore for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' visit. His brother, Rája General.

Shám Singh, *ex*-Rája of Chamba, died on June 10th, 1905. The year was on the whole a favourable one : the revenue was realised without difficulty, and remissions were only necessary in the Barmor Wazarat, where the earthquake was most felt.

SUKET.

Area, 420 square miles; population, 54,676; gross revenue, Rs. 1,27,971; army and police, 94; race of Chief, Chandarbansi Rájpút; age of Chief, 41.

General. 19. The Rája went to Lahore for the visit of the Prince of Wales. Considerable damage was done by the earthquake, but many of the State buildings as well as those in towns and villages have now been rebuilt. The telegraph has been extended from Mandi to Suket.

KALSIA.

Area, 168 square miles; population, 67,181; gross revenue, Rs. 1,70,079; army and police, 119; race of Chief, Jat; age of Chief, 23.

General. 20. Full powers were conferred during 1905-06 on Sardár Ranjít Singh, who was present at Delhi during the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The State remained practically free from plague.

PATAUDI.

Area, 52 square miles; population, 21,933; gross revenue, Rs. 85,577; army and police, 42; race of Chief, Afghán; age of Chief, 46.

General. 21. Munshi Sáhibdád Khán, Extra Assistant Commissioner, was appointed Názim in place of Khán Bahádur Qásim Ali Khán, who died in December 1905. The Nawáb came to Delhi for the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

LOHARU.

Area, 222 square miles; population, 15,229; gross revenue, Rs. 66,000; army and police, 43; race of Chief, Mughal; age of Chief, 46.

General. 22. The Nawáb was prevented by illness from coming to Delhi for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' visit.

DUJANA.

Area, 100 square miles; population, 24,174; gross revenue, Rs. 77,170; army and police, 178; race of Chief, Afghán; age of Chief, 41.

General. 23. The Nawáb was present at Delhi for the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

BILASPUR.

Area, 448 square miles; population, 90,873; gross revenue, Rs. 1,90,000; army and police, 97; race of Chief, Hindu Rájpút; age of Chief, 32; tribute, Rs. 8,000.

General. 24. The Rája has continued to reside at Benáres, and the affairs of the State have been satisfactorily administered by Mián Amar Singh. The settlement is making good progress.

BASHAHR.

Area, 3,820 square miles; population, 80,572; gross revenue, Rs. 95,000; army and police, 13; race of Chief, Hindu Rájpút; age of Chief, 68.

General. 25. The mental faculties of the Rája are failing, and the State has continued to be administered by Rái Sáhib Mangat Rám. Considerable damage was done by the earthquake, and some 25 persons were killed as well as a large

number of sheep and cattle. The district of Dodra Kawar was throughout 1905-06 in a state of rebellion. The ringleader, Ran Bahádur Singh, was induced to surrender himself in Simla, where he died. In the summer of 1906 it became necessary to despatch a strong force of police under the Assistant Commissioner and Superintendent of Police to deal with the rebels.

OTHER SIMLA HILL STATES.

General.

26. The crops throughout the Hill States have been generally good. There was a sporadic outbreak of cholera in JUBBAL and KUMHARSAIN in October 1905, and about 22 persons died: plague appeared in NALAGARH in the same month, killing 46. The Sandoch pargana of KHANETI was in revolt against the Manager. Thákur Bishen Chand of MADHAN died on the 30th December 1905, and was succeeded by his son, Randhir Chand, aged 18. Orders have been passed directing the Superintendent of Hill States to take over the management of the State forest of GHUND to prevent their further injury. The State of BAGHAL has been administered by a council of two, and progress made with the settlement. The revision of the land-revenue settlement of JUBBAL is nearly complete, and a record-of-rights for the forests will shortly be undertaken. A son and heir was born to the Thákur of DHADHI on 19th August 1905, to the Rána of DHAMI on 24th October 1905, to the Rána of KUTHAR on 25th August 1905 and to the Thákur of TAROCH on 29th October 1905. Rána Tej Singh of KUNIHAR died on 7th October 1905, leaving a son Tika Hardeo Singh, aged 7, and Thákur Udái Chand of BIJA died on the 19th June 1905, leaving a son Puran Chand, aged 10. Munshi Sukh Chain Singh was appointed Manager of KUMHARSAIN.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

The Dera Ghazi Khan border.

27. There has been absolute peace on the Dera Gházi Khan border during the year. There is a considerable increase in the number of civil cases instituted before the jirgas, which may be regarded as a sign of increased confidence in the administration. The working of the Border Military Police has been satisfactory. The failure of rains before March 1906 caused considerable scarcity of fodder and grain among the hill people, but timely rain in March improved the situation substantially.

9. Condition of the People.

General condition.

28. The period dealt with by this report in one section or another covers two complete years, from the sowing of the autumn crop of 1904 to the spring harvest of 1906. The autumn harvest of 1904 was a very poor one, and large tracts remained unsown, while the proportion of crops to cultivation was low. As the poorer classes everywhere depend on the autumn grains until the spring harvest is cut, and in the greater portion of the province make them their staple diet the whole year round, we shall find in chapter III these conditions seriously affecting the returns of crime in the calendar year 1905. The spring crop of 1905 in January and February suffered from severe frosts, and at the time seemed to have received more damage than they really had—a fact which tended to intensify the conditions of scarcity. As, however, it turned out, the crop was a very fair one and made the year's crops on the whole to be above the average, and in chapter II it will be seen that the land revenue was well paid in, while in chapter III the good spring crop is used to explain the reduction in mortgages. But it is to be borne in mind that a good wheat harvest affects chiefly the landowning classes and their menials, and not the industrial and masterless population who depend on cheap grains of the coarser sorts. Hence we do not in chapter III find that the conditions which led to an increase of crime in 1905 at all alleviated. In fact the conditions of the monsoon were such as to intensify them, as they were very unsatisfactory for the autumn harvest, and until the middle of September it seemed that there would be no unirrigated sowings for the spring. The result was wild speculation in grain and a very sharp rise of prices almost everywhere. The cotton crop too

was almost a total loss from boll-worm. The trade of 1905-06 which was based on the two crops of 1905 showed a marked decrease of exports, especially of wheat, more due, as will be seen in section 33, to the holding up of stocks in view of the scarcity in Central India and Rájpútána than to the actual shortage of supply, while this scarcity attracted the coarser food-grains in that direction, thus helping to raise their price to the detriment of the poorer classes in the Punjab. That the purchasing power of the well-to-do was not impaired appears from the large increase in imports. Prices, however, ruled high through the winter and there was scarcity in the Delhi division necessitating the opening of relief works in Rohtak. Finally, the spring harvest of 1906 was a bumper both in area and yield, but its effects on the condition of the people come in a period which will be dealt with in the next issue of this report. The health of the people in 1905 was, as will be shown in chapter VI, good, were it not for the ravages of plague which continues to raise the death-rate of the province to an alarming height.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

Report on the land revenue administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1905.

General report on the operations of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1905.

Annual report on the Settlement Operations in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1905.

Report of the Operations of the Department of the Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1905.

Annual report of the working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, XIII of 1900, for the year ending 30th September 1905.

Annual reports for the Chenab, Jhang, Jhelum and Chunián colonies for the year ending 30th September 1905.

Report on the administration of estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1905.]

10. Realization of the land revenue.

General conditions in 1904-05.

29. The autumn harvest of 1904 was a poor one ; large areas remained uncultivated, while a fifth of the crop sown failed to mature. On the other hand, the spring harvest in 1905 was generally an excellent one, in spite of unusually severe frosts in January which seriously injured the earlier sown crops ; and this more than made up the deficiency in the autumn crop and placed the whole year's outturn at 5 per cent. above normal. On the other hand, the disastrous earthquake in Kángra made the remission of over a lakh of rupees in that district necessary.

Fixed land revenue.

30. The fixed land revenue demand stood at 207½ lakhs, of which 199 lakhs or 95·4 per cent. were collected. Of the remaining 8½ lakhs, only the small amount of half a lakh represents actual deficiencies in collection, as Rs. 3,70,000 remained under suspension, Rs. 1,04,000 shown as irrecoverable were subsequently remitted on account of the Kángra disaster, Rs. 2,37,000 (also shown as irrecoverable) were struck off on account of the change from the fixed to the fluctuating system of assessment in two tahsíls of Gujránwála, and the rest represents various items of undetermined or irrecoverable balances. Rs. 7,16,000 were collected on account of previous years, and this coupled with the writing-off of considerable irrecoverable arrears has reduced the balance on account of previous years to under 12½ lakhs.

Suspensions and remissions of fixed land revenue.

31. Rs. 4,53,000 were suspended, chiefly in Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Lahore, Gujrát and Shahpur. The Hissar suspensions were due to a poor autumn crop in Sirsa; those in Rohtak and Gurgaon to damage done to the spring crop by frost. The Lahore suspensions belong chiefly to the unirrigated tracts in Sharakpur, where there was a partial failure of rain for both harvests. An early cessation of autumn rains followed by prolonged frosts made the suspensions in Shahpur necessary. It was found possible to collect with the spring harvest a good amount of that suspended in the autumn, in Gujrát more than half, so that the recoverable balance of fixed land revenue under suspension for the year stood, as already mentioned, at only Rs. 3,70,000. Including amounts suspended in past years, the collections of suspended revenue amounted to Rs. 7,31,000. In addition to the remissions in Kángra above referred to, Rs. 3,35,000 under suspension were remitted during the year, mostly in Miánwáli, and the balance of suspended fixed land revenue was reduced from 21 lakhs to less than 15 lakhs. A Bill was prepared during the year for the amendment of the Tenancy Act in order to give increased powers to secure the remission or suspension of cash rents by landowners who have benefited by remissions or suspensions of land revenue.

Fluctuating land revenue.

32. The movement towards the substitution of fluctuating for fixed assessments, which has been a marked feature of the revenue administration of the Punjab during the last few years, has been maintained in the year under report, with the introduction of a regular fluctuating assessment in two tahsíls of the Gujránwála district which are irrigated from the Chenab Canal. Partly from this cause, the amount of fluctuating land revenue permently excluded from the rent roll has risen from 36½ lakhs to over 40 lakhs; but this result is affected by the inclusion of arrears of consolidated rate on the Jhelum colony which had been kept in deposit for two years pending orders. On the other hand, the increase would have been much larger but for the bad running of the inundation canals and other unfavourable conditions in Multán and Montgomery where a decrease of 3 lakhs is shown. These two districts are chiefly responsible for the decrease of a lakh in the collections on account of fluctuating assessment of canal-irrigated lands. The popularity of the system of fluctuating assessment appears to depend on whether the people think it likely to be pecuniarily advantageous to them; it seems to be growing in popularity in those insecure tracts where its adoption is peculiarly appropriate, and especially among the poorer villages.

Miscellaneous land revenue.

33. The total collections of miscellaneous land revenue rose from 12·1 lakhs to nearly 13½ lakhs, chiefly on account of the unexpected success of the auction sale of land in the Chunián colony. Tirni* receipts show a decrease of Rs. 23,000, chiefly in the Jhang district, where it is said to be due to alterations in the method of assessment. The recent quinquennial assessment of tirni in Montgomery has resulted in an enhancement, but as distribution lists were not prepared pending the decision of appeals, a nominal decrease is shown this year. There are large balances of miscellaneous revenue in Shahpur due to the non-payment of nazaránа†.

Collection of the land revenue.

34. The decrease noted in last year's report in the total number of coercive processes for the collection of land revenue was maintained in 1904-05: warrants in particular decreased by one-third. The practice is gaining ground in many districts for utilising in the collection of revenue the services of zaildárs‡, whose local influence renders them peculiarly fitted for this duty, and this practice explains the small proportion of writs to warrants in certain districts, where the zaildári agency is used practically as a more effective substitute for writs. The use of money orders for remitting revenue demands continues to grow in favour.

11. Survey.

Survey of India Party No. 18 (Punjab).

35. A 2-inch supplementary survey was carried out in Multán and Muzaffargarh, and about 1,500 square miles were surveyed. About 2,400 squares were traversed in Multán and Muzaffargarh. A riverain traverse was carried out on the Indus, Jhelum, Ravi and Sutlej in 14 districts and in the Baháwalpur State, and about 3,000 square miles of traverse were completed.

Boundary demarcation.

36. Local work on the permanent boundary between the Montgomery district and the Baháwalpur State was completed during the year, and orders have been passed approving, except in a few cases, the boundary laid down. That between Multán aud Baháwalpur is still under consideration. Fixed boundaries were laid down between British districts on the Chenab, Sutlej and Ravi. The Government of the United Provinces felt unable to assent to the substitution of a fixed for a fluctuating boundary on the Jumna.

12. Settlements.

Settlements in progress.

37. Six settlements were in progress at the beginning of 1904-05. No settlement was completed in this year; one, that of Karnál, was started in October 1904.

Jhang.—The remaining three assessment reports were written during 1904-05, and the settlement was completed in May 1906. In the Chenab riverain circles fixed assessments are being largely replaced by fluctuating, but in the Jhelum and Joint river circles fixed assessments are being retained. The tract irrigated by the Lower Chenab and Lower Jhelum Canals has been put under a purely fluctuating assessment.

* Tirni—dues for grazing in Government waste.
† Nazarana—rent due to Government as landlord of Crown lands.
‡ Zaildars—local gentry who receive retaining fees for general assistance to Government.

Hafizabad.—Final orders were passed on the canal-irrigated tract, and the new demand introduced from the autumn harvest of 1904. The new assessment is almost entirely fluctuating and showed, in the first year, an increase of over a lakh. The assessment work in the other circles has since been completed by the issue of orders on the assessment proposals for the Chenab circle and non-canal villages in the Bar circle. The process of *kilabandi*, or the redistribution of the fields into regular rectangles, is being carried out on a large scale in this settlement.

Ráwalpindi.—Survey work was completed in 1904-05, and the work of final attestation of the record-of-rights was being pressed on. The assessment report for the Gujar Khan tahsíl was submitted, and an increase of Rs. 34,000 or 15 per cent. will be taken. In 1905-06 proposals for the re-assessment of the other tahsíls included in the settlement were submitted to the Financial Commissioner, and the orders of Government on the assessment of the Ráwalpindi tahsíl have been received. The increase taken in this tahsíl will amount to 25 per cent.

Miánwáli.—Survey work was carried on during 1904-05 and was completed in the summer of 1906. The tahsíls of Bhakkar and Leiah have been added to the charge of the Settlement Officer, thus placing the whole of the district of Miánwáli as at present constituted under his care.

Gurgaon.—Progress was made with the correction of existing maps, and much was done in the way of improving the quality of the subordinate staff.

Karnál.—Remeasurement and correction of existing maps were carried on. An endeavour was made to introduce *kilabandi* into the canal tract, but in view of the great difficulties experienced in carrying it out, the attempt was abandoned. Endeavour is, however, being made in mapping villages in the canal-irrigated tract to make as far as possible the survey numbers of regular shape and moderate dimensions.

Dera Ismail Khan.—The last assessment report of the old Dera Ismail Khan district was submitted by the late Captain Crosthwaite. It included 19 estates now in the Dera Gházi Khan district of the Punjab on which orders were passed by the Punjab Government. The tahsíls of Bhakkar and Leiah (now included in the Miánwáli district of the Punjab), whose assessment had long been finished, were transferred for final completion to the Settlement Officer of Miánwáli, and the completion of the settlement of the portion of the charge now included in the North-West Frontier Province will be carried out by the administration of that province.

Supervision in the North-West Frontier Province.

38. The supervision by the Settlement Commissioner of operations in the North-West Frontier Province is now confined to the Hazára district, the settlement of which is expected to close shortly.

Coming settlements and miscellaneous business.

39. Forecast reports were submitted during 1904-05 for the settlement of Rohtak and Ambála. The re-assessment of Rohtak was sanctioned and began in October 1905, but that of Ambála was deferred for five years. Forecast reports for the districts of Hissar, Delhi and Gurdáspur have since been submitted, and the settlements of the two former were started in October 1906. Reports were submitted to Government on the revision of occupiers' rates on the Bári Doáb and Western Jumna Canals.

13. Land records.

Patwari and kanungo agency and land record establishments.

40. A full account of the patwári and kánúngo agency was given at pages 71—75 of the report for 1901-02. There has been a satisfactory decrease in the number of admitted candidates, who have been in past years so numerous as to block promotion, and the percentage of candidates to appointments is now 38. The educational qualifications of patwárís show a continued improvement, 36 per cent. having passed the Middle or higher examinations. Among the candidates the proportion is not quite so good as in last year, but stands at the respectable figure of 69. Proposals were submitted to increase retiring gratuities, and it is hoped that if they are accepted, it will then be possible to insist more strictly on

the Middle standard as a necessary qualification, while it will at the same time be easier to discharge non-efficient men. The number of agriculturist candidates decreased more than proportionately to the total decrease, and there is a decline in the number of agriculturist patwárís, though the total number of patwárís has increased. A satisfactory proportion of kánúngo vacancies were filled by patwárís, but the proportion of patwárís accepted as kánúngo candidates was below that prescribed. The pay of the kánúngo service was materially improved from 31st March 1905. District kánúngos now receive salaries rising by increments of Rs. 4 from Rs. 60 to Rs. 80; tahsíl office kánúngos receive Rs. 40; and field allowances have been made available for all field kánúngos instead of as formerly for half only. The kánúngo service has shown satisfactory ability and experience, and there are only two kánúngos who do not possess a certificate of efficiency. Satisfactory promotion to higher posts such as those of Tahsíldár and Náib Tahsíldár has been given to kánúngos. A scheme for the reorganisation of the establishment of district record-rooms was completed during the year, and the question of the amalgamation of the copying agency and department is under consideration.

The patwar fund.

41. The financial position of the provincialised patwár fund in 1904-05 was much more favourable than was originally anticipated, owing largely to the inclusion in it of the Chenab colony fund. A new system of accounts was introduced with effect from 1st April 1905. The abolition of the patwár rate by the orders of the Government of India which took place on 1st April 1906 has now abolished the patwár fund, all expenditure formerly met from it being now charged to provincial revenues.

Statistical information derived from the land records.

42. Mutations of title continue to increase, there being 714,696 cases instituted in 1904-05 as compared with 607,256 in the preceding year. The increase is attributed to deaths from plague and to special measures taken to remove the names of absentees. The increased volume of work was kept well in hand, attestations rising from 600,998 to 7,01,083, and the pending file, though slightly larger than last year, averages no more than 3 per village. The pending file of partitions is larger than it was, in spite of an increase in disposals, and there are heavy balances in some districts. The annual records have been prepared with punctuality and accuracy. The copying of the records destroyed by the Dharmsála fire of February 1904 was completed before the earthquake of April 1905, and the records buried in the earthquake were safely recovered.

14. Waste lands and Government estates.

Government canal colonies.

43. The annual colonization report for 1904-05 deals with, besides the Lower Chenab, Lower Jhelum, and Chunian colonies, a small colony consisting of scattered plots in the Jhang district irrigated by the Lower Jhelum Canal. The two former colonies continue to be administered by special Colonization Officers, but it is expected that the special administration of the Chenab colony will merge in 1907 in the ordinary district administration. The Chunián colony is under the Depuy Commissioner of the Lahore district, and the Jhang colony was administered during 1904-05 by the Settlement Officer. The Bill amending the Government Tenants Act (Punjab), III of 1903, has been redrafted, and the draft was in 1906 approved by the Secretary of State.

Chenab colony.

44. The total area of land allotted in the Chenab colony at the end of 1904-05 was 1,819,000 acres. An extension on the Dang Ali branch is being allotted, and proposals for further extensions known as the Burála and Kabírwála extensions are being prepared. The area sown was over 1,647,500 acres; it cannot be compared with the figures of 1903-04 which included by oversight a large number of villages outside colony limits, but it shows an advance of 106,000 acres as compared with 1902-03. Ninety per cent. of the allotted area was cropped, which is much in excess of what was originally contemplated and is a somewhat excessive proportion for the soil to bear. It is under consideration to cut down the percentage of area which may be irrigated. The failure of the cotton crop in the autumn of 1905 made the succeeding year an extremely bad one. The experiment of making grants to headmen on mule-breeding conditions continues to work in a highly satisfactory manner, and there are now over 1,100 headmen bound by these conditions. Other grantees are also taking to mule-breeding on their own account, and a large number of mares have been

branded for horse-breeding. An extension on the Dang Ali branch is being partly allotted to men of substantial position on camel service terms, and the strength of the service grantee camels will be raised to 4 corps or 4,272 camels. From 1897 (when proprietary rights first became purchaseable on the Rakh branch) to the end of 1904-05, 190 grantees in all have availed themselves of the right to purchase, of which 75 were during 1904-05. Occupancy rights were acquired by over 6,500 peasant grantees in 1904-05. Settlement proceedings continued, and first records-of-rights were drawn up for 217 villages. The creation of the district of Lyallpur has relieved the Colonization Officer of the work connected with arboriculture and municipal towns. Considerable progress has been made with the planting of avenues on roads and in village sites: there are now over 2,000 village nurseries, and a large area of between 40 and 50,000 acres has been set aside on the Kabírwála extension for an irrigated forest. Rewards have been sanctioned for the purpose of encouraging village sanitation. Three sites have been selected for new towns on the Gugera Branch Chord Railway and work on the Shahdara-Sángla Railway is being prosecuted. Good progress has been made with the metalling of roads.

Lower Jhelum colony.

45. Nearly 304,000 acres on the Lower Jhelum Canal were allotted by the end of 1904-05. The amount remaining unallotted which is fit for allotment is insufficient to fulfil the anticipations previously formed, and though all peasant grantees on horse-breeding conditions have been supplied with good land, it will probably be necessary to transfer to lands commanded by the new extensions of the Lower Chenab Canal or by new canals some of the other allotments which it was originally intended to make on the Lower Jhelum canal, and the project for an irrigated forest reserve has had to be dropped. Ten allotments have been made for regimental stud farms which are being successfully worked, but the same cannot be said of stud farm grants to native grantees, many of whom are very backward in observing the conditions of their grants. A really excellent stamp of horse is being turned out by the peasant grantees on horse-breeding conditions. The area sown out of that permanently allotted was, in 1904-05, 148,000 : the year was a bad one on account of the prevalence of plague and unfavourable climatic conditions. Also 1905-06 was a bad year, owing to the failure of the cotton crops. Progress has been made in the construction of markets and village sites : nurseries of trees have been planted in all villages : trees have been planted in the village sites, but suffered from the unusual winter frosts. The extension of the Malakwál-Sargodha line to Shorkot Road was opened for traffic in May 1906, and a complete scheme of roads has been sanctioned. Horse and cattle fairs were held at Sargodha ; the horse fair seems likely to become one of the largest in Northern India. A new tahsíl has been constituted at Sargodha.

Chunian colony.

46. The allotted area in the Chunián colony was, at the end of 1904-05, 73,000 acres, of which 54,000 acres were sown during the year; and only 793 acres were left for allotment. Considerable progress was made in enforcing sanitation in village sites. An area of 1,132 acres was sold by auction at the average price of Rs. 266-4-0 per acre.

Jhang colony.

47. The Jhang colony consists of 23 scattered plots of Government waste in the Jhang district irrigated by the Lower Jhelum Canal, part of which is being allotted in full ownership as compensation to landowners who have suffered by the acquisition of their land for public purposes or by the realignment of their village boundaries, and part to landowners in the neighbourhood. Land for markets or sarais has been acquired at several places on the Jech Doáb Railway.

Other Government wastes.

48. Besides the areas under colonization schemes which amount altogether to over two million acres, there are more than five million acres of unclassed forests under the control of Deputy Commissioners, of which only about a fiftieth part was leased for temporary cultivation, the rest being only fit for grazing. Five plots of waste in Montgomery with a total area of over 9,000 acres have been settled as a special reserve for the use of the silladár camel corps. Steps have been taken to revise where necessary forest boundaries in the Ráwalpindi district. A rectangular survey of the tract to be commanded by the Upper Chenab Canal project has been sanctioned, and work will be started in the cold weather of 1906. Less damage than usual was done in the Hoshiárpur district by the *chos* or hill torrents, a result partly due to scanty rainfall which also however retarded the process of protection by growth of

vegetation. Still, satisfactory progress in re-afforestation has been made: more than a quarter of the torrent-affected lands have been sown with sarkanda grass, and the amendment of section 5 (*c*) of the Punjab Land Preservation (*Chos*) Act of 1900 by Act IV of 1905 has by stopping the removal of grass for sale greatly assisted the work. The attitude of the landowners has greatly improved, and where the stricter provisions of the Act are applied a surprisingly good growth of trees and brushwood is found.

15. Wards' estates.

General.

49. Three estates were released entirely and one partially during 1904-05, in which an aggregate debt of Rs. 37,000 had been converted into an asset of Rs. 58,000 with the sacrifice of only 221 acres of land. Seven estates were added to the list (two notified in the preceding year), so that there are left 43 estates under management. Altogether debts to the amount of over six lakhs were extinguished during 1904-05. The difficulty of finding investments for accumulated capital still continues. Landed property if not situated in the immediate neighbourhood of the wards' estates requires for its maintenance a more expensive agency than its returns generally justify, and investments in guaranteed railway stock or companies, however sound, are not easily realisable. A new feature of the year's administration is the employment of the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts on the audit and inspection of court of wards' estates, a system which has already proved a most valuable aid in the administration of the estates. The Revised Revenue Circular No. 57 dealing with the Court of Wards has been sanctioned.

16. Revenue and rent paying classes.

Land Alienation Act.

50. The year 1904-05 is the fourth year of the working of the Land Alienation Act, XIII of 1900, and the results of the year bear out the conclusions already arrived at as to the satisfactory working of the Act. The steadily rising price of land gives no support to the anticipations of a permanent and serious depreciation in the value of land which were entertained by some when the Act was passed. The Act continues to be popular with the cultivators, and to impose no serious burden on the revenue officials; and the anomaly of the statutory agriculturist which has caused some inconveniences in its working will, it is probable, be abolished by an amendment, the introduction of which into the Punjab Legislature has now (1906) been sanctioned by the Government of India. As regards the effect of the Act on the credit of the cultivators, it appears that it undoubtedly has the good result of putting a stop to unproductive and extravagant expenditure: and there is at the same time appearing a wholly laudable tendency for the capital formerly employed in pandering to the wasteful tastes of the peasant to be turned to the fields of legitimate industrial employment such as investment in manufactures and wholesale trade; and this effect of the Act seems likely to exercise no small influence on the industrial development of the province. There is however nothing to show that the cultivators have been unable to find capital for their legitimate demands, although this might in places have been the case had not the liberal distribution of Government advances broken down the money-lender's monopoly; the scope for the industrial employment of capital is not likely to be so great, but that enough will be left for the legitimate needs of agriculture; and the finance of the village money-lender will now be conducted with far more business discrimination when he can no longer lend on the security of land, reckless of the solvency of his debtors.

Tenants and rent.

51. Suits for enhancement of rent rose from 474 to 698, and consequent enhancements from 356 to 494. The great majority of suits were instituted in the Hoshiárpur and Jullundur districts. Only one suit for reduction of rent was successful. There were 45 ejectments of occupancy tenants, and 6,069 of tenants-at-will.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

52. Fifteen declarations of a rule of integral descent under the Descent of Jagirs Act (IV of 1900) were published in 1904-05. Satisfactory progress has been made in Karnál, but the Sikh jagírdárs of Ambála still maintain their attitude of opposition. This it is suggested is not due so much to dislike of the principle of primogeniture in itself, or even to the clause in the agreement which empowers Government to reject an unfit heir, but to reluctance to take on themselves the invidious step of preferring one son before his brothers.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

[Detailed information and statistics on the subjects included in this chapter will be found in the following reports:—

Police.—Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1905.

Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1905.

Criminal Justice.—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1905.

Prisons.—Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1905.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1905.

Registration.—Note on the Registration Returns of the Punjab for the year 1905.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1905-06.

Local Boards Administration.—Report on the working of the Local Boards in the Punjab during the year 1905-06.

And in the following tables of the Volume of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06, Eleventh Issue, *viz.*, Police (Tables VII), Criminal Justice (Tables IV), Jails (Tables V), Civil Justice (Tables III), Registration (Tables IX) and Municipalities (Tables XVII).]

17. Legislating Authority.

(See pages 83 and 84 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

18. Course of Legislation.

Meetings of the Legislative Council.

53. During the year 1905-06 three meetings of the Punjab Legislative Council were held on the 29th July and 5th August 1905 at Simla, and on the 23rd December 1905 at Lahore. Bills were introduced in Council (1) to amend Punjab Act II of 1900, the Punjab Land Preservation (Chos) Act, (2) to amend certain provisions of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887, and (3) to regulate the use of Motor-Vehicles in the Punjab. The Bill to amend Punjab Act II of 1900, Punjab Land Preservation (Chos) Act, was passed at the meeting held at Simla on the 5th August 1905, and after receiving the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General of India on the 24th August 1905 was published as Punjab Act IV of 1905.

Changes among Members.

54. The Hon'ble Kanwar Sir Ranbír Singh, K.C.S.I., and the Hon'ble Major Rája Jai Chand vacated their seats on the expiry of their term of two years. The resignation of Hon'ble Mr. J. Benton, C.I.E., of his seat on the Council was accepted on the 4th September 1906. The seat of the Hon'ble Mr. Alexander Anderson, C.I.E., fell vacant on his death. The Hon'ble Sir D. P. Masson, C.I.E., Kt., the Hon'ble Mr. J. M. Douie, I.C.S., the Hon'ble Sir Charles Lewis Tupper, C.S.I., K.C.I.E., and the Hon'ble Mián Muhammad Shah Dín on the expiry of their term of office were reappointed for a further term of two years. The Hon'ble Mr. Stephen Finney, C.I.E., Sirdár Partáp Singh, Ahlúwália, the Hon'ble Thákar Mahán Chand, the Hon'ble Mr. T. Gordon Walker, C.S.I., I.C.S., and the Hon'ble Malik Umar Hayát Khán Tiwána were appointed to fill existing vacancies.

Bills.

55. The following Bills affecting the Punjab were introduced into the Legislative Council of the Governor-General of India during the year on the dates below mentioned:—

14th July 1905, No. 7 of 1905, further to amend the Indian Articles of War.

18th July 1905, No. 8 of 1905, to consolidate and amend the law relating to coinage and the mint.

29th September 1905, No. 10 of 1905, further to amend the Indian Factories Act, 1881.

19th January 1906, No. 1 of 1906, further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

19th January 1906, No. 2 of 1906, further to amend the law relating to Merchant seamen.

These all refer to the whole of British India, Nos. 8 of 1905 and 1 of 1906 including the Pargana of Spiti.

Acts.

56. The Indian Acts which apply to this Province as well as to other parts of British India and which received the assent of the Governor-General during the year are the following :—

18th July 1905, No. V of 1905, an Act further to amend the Indian Articles of War.

29th September 1905, No. VI of 1905, an Act further to amend the Court Fees Act, 1870.

26th January 1906, No. I of 1906, an Act further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894.

2nd March 1906, No. III of 1906, an Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to coinage and the mint.

21st March 1906, No. V of 1906, an Act further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

21st March 1906, No. VI of 1906, an Act further to amend the law relating to Merchant seamen.

Nos. III and V of 1906 apply to the Pargana of Spiti.

19. Police.

Condition of crime.

57. There was a considerable increase of crime in the year 1905 which after two normal years exhibits conditions very similar to those of 1902. For this there is little doubt that a severe winter and local failure of crops coupled with scarcity and plague (conditions largely resembling those of 1902) are mainly responsible. Altogether nearly 51,000 cognizable cases were reported to the Police, an increase of a little over 1,100: there were also nearly 18,500 true cases reported to Magistrates, which is about the same as last year. In Police cases, the most noticeable increase is in offences against property which numbered over 47,700, 2,500 more than in 1904. Of these 43 were *dakaitis*, 1 more than last year, but only 12 can be described as cases of true organised gang robbery, and except in Ráwalpindi and Miánwáli there was no indication of unrest on this account. In Ráwalpindi the Murree tahsíl was for some time terrorized by a gang of ruffians who made their head-quarters across the Hazára border. In the trans-Indus portion of Miánwáli a serious *dakaiti* was committed by a notorious gang from Khost in Afghán territory. There were over 12,300 burglaries, an increase of 1,770; in the Jhelum Colony and the Lahore District this seems partly due to the growth of population, but plague and scarcity were generally speaking the principal causes. There was a decrease in cattle thefts, as is usual in years of scarcity. Thefts of arms were more frequent than in 1904 and these offences were committed mostly by well-organised gangs of rifle thieves, to cope with whom considerable detective ability is required. Serious offences against the person showed a slight increase

and included 475 murders which were most frequent in Lahore (48), Ráwalpindi (40), and Dera Gházi Khan (37). 93 persons were hanged during the year. A conviction for culpable homicide was obtained in a case of *sati* in Karnál; in Ambála a remarkable case occurred in which a child was said to have been murdered in order that a pregnant woman might bathe in its blood, but the conviction was set aside by the Chief Court. Grievous hurt decreased slightly from 1904, but is sufficiently common to give rise to the suggestion that courts are inclined to be too lenient in permitting this class of offence to be compounded. There were 84 cases of coining as against 107 in 1904; in 31 cases convictions were obtained. No case of importance occurred. The village of Malsián in Jullundur maintains the notoriety it has enjoyed since 1879 as the home of a large gang of coiners who carry on their operations at places so far distant as Calcutta and Fyzabad. The large number of false coins received at treasuries and railway stations shows that this class of crime is by no means suppressed.

Working of Police.

58. The working of the Police shows a slight improvement, and in the more important classes of offences a very fair measure of success in prosecution has been obtained. There was a satisfactory increase in the number of old offenders detected, a result which was due to the work of the Finger Print Bureau. It is worth notice that in Multán and Dera Gházi Khan 20 and 19 per cent. respectively of the persons convicted for offences against property were old offenders. There is a decrease in the number of prosecutions for bad livelihood, but this is due to greater discrimination in proceeding against ring-leaders and bad characters of note instead of against the rank and file of the criminal classes. Eleven punitive posts which were in existence at the close of 1904 were continued for further periods, and eight new posts were established during the year. The practice of referring cases to *jirgás* under the Frontier Crimes Regulation continues to work with success in Miánwáli and Dera Gházi Khan. Great attention has been paid to the task of securing the good will and co-operation of zaildárs and village headmen and with excellent results. 1,409 criminals were identified out of 7,061 references at the Criminal Identification Bureau, and Farídkot and Máler Kotla were added during the year to the Native States in which the finger impression system is in force. Admirable work was done by the Police in the relief operations consequent on the Kángra earthquake, and in the arrangements connected with the Royal visit.

Changes in establishment.

59. The following changes in the strength and cost of establishment were carried out during the year under the Police reorganisation scheme. The appointment of Deputy Inspector-General, Railway Police and Criminal Investigation Department, with a staff of non-gazetted officers and men, was created, and two Deputy Superintendents were added to the cadre of gazetted officers. Three grades of European Sergeants were formed on Rs. 80, Rs. 90 and Rs. 100 per mensem, in place of the one grade on Rs. 80 which previously existed; an addition was made to the strength of Inspectors and a number of officers of this class were appointed Court Inspectors; a special grade of Inspectors on Rs. 250 per mensem was created, and the pay of the lowest grade of Inspectors was raised from Rs. 125 to Rs. 150. A considerable addition was made to the number of Sub-Inspectors, and officers of this class have taken the place of all head constables in charge of police-stations; a reduction was effected in the number of first grade head constables and their pay was reduced from Rs. 25 to Rs. 20; the pay of head constables of the second and third grades was raised from Rs. 16 and Rs. 12 to Rs. 17-8-0 and Rs. 15, respectively, and the pay of constables was raised from Rs. 7 to Rs. 8 in the case of men with less than three years' service, and to Rs. 9 in the case of men of three years' service and over. All station-house allowances and good conduct and educational allowances were abolished. An armed reserve was formed by the addition of 25 constables per district to the strength of the force.

RURAL POLICE.

Rural Police.

(See pages 88 and 89 of the report for 1901-02.)

CRIMINAL TRIBES.

Criminal tribes.

60. The Gutkas of the Lahore district who were proclaimed as a criminal tribe in November 1904, were registered for the first time in 1905, and the Biluches of two villages in Jhang were proclaimed under the Act in 1905, but their registration was pending at the end of the year. There are nearly 19,700 persons registered under the Act, of whom Sánsís, Bauriahs, Harnís and Pakhíwárás account for over 18,100. This is an increase of about 400, chiefly Bauriahs. There is a drop in the number of convictions against registered persons, but this is not entirely satisfactory as it is due to a decrease in cases under the Criminal Tribes Act and the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code, while offences under the Indian Penal Code have slightly increased. On the other hand, in spite of the increase of registered persons, there is a satisfactory decrease of 96 in the number of absentees, and except in five cases the number of absentees of each tribe is less than 10 per cent. of the non-exempted members. In the five exceptions (Mahtams, Bháts, Tágus, Bilúchís and Pakhíwárás) the proportion is considerably over 30 per cent. The only tribes in whose conduct there are any signs of improvement are the Bauriahs and Harnís, the Minás of Gurgaon and the Giloi Bilúchís of Lyallpur.

Wandering tribes.

61. The crime committed by wandering tribes continues to increase; no real surveillance can be maintained over these gangs, and the law as it stands is a direct encouragement to them to continue wandering, as so long as they have no fixed place of residence they cannot, however criminal, be registered under the Criminal Tribes Act.

20. Criminal Justice.

Crime and punishments.

62. As has been already noted in the foregoing section, crime, and especially serious offences against property, went up considerably in 1905; but by far the greater portion of the increase in offences reported was due to the institution of false or frivolous complaints in the courts. The policy of systematically treating incorrigible offenders with severity which was inaugurated at the end of 1903 had the effect of considerably reducing serious crime against property in 1904, and that it has not had the same effect in 1905 is probably due to the counteracting effects of scarcity and plague, conditions in *which* the casual as opposed to the professional offender tends to join the ranks of crime. The punishment of whipping continues to grow in favour as a means of dealing with offenders whom it is not desirable to expose to the evil influences of jail life, but there are still a good many persons sentenced to imprisonment for a fortnight or less who should have been released under security to be of good behaviour.

False and frivolous cases.

63. The percentage of convictions to trials fell from 27 to 25, and in Gurdáspur was only 10. In this district alone the time taken up over trivial cases not one of which ended in a conviction is computed at the full working hours of one Magistrate for the whole year. The stricter use of the powers of summary dismissal and of awarding compensation to persons falsely or frivolously accused seems the most promising solution of the problem. Steps are also being taken to reduce the number of second grade petition-writers in districts where their excessive numbers appear to encourage litigiousness.

Appeals.

64. The Punjab continues to show a high percentage of successful appeals; 22 per cent. of those convicted appealed, and in 37 per cent. of the appeals the sentences were reduced, altered or set aside or the proceedings quashed.

21. Prisons.

Jails and jail population.

65. The number of jails in the Province remained 28. A little over 38,000 prisoners were admitted, an increase of 842 over the figures of last year which is due entirely to the increased number of under-trial prisoners admitted. The number of convicts fell by 471. The daily average convict population again fell, as it has done continuously since 1900 and now stands at 10,531, the lowest figure since 1896. The new jails opened at Miánwáli and Lyallpur in

the preceding year have afforded some relief in the matter of over-crowding. A new jail is being built at Campbellpur and a site has been selected at Ludhiána for a Central Jail for long-term prisoners which will relieve Montgomery and Lahore.

Juvenile offenders.

66. The opening of the Delhi Reformatory School in October 1903 caused the admission of boys under 16 to jail to fall in 1904 from 115 to 82. In 1905 however 79 were sent to jail and only 22 admitted to the Reformatory School, so that it does not appear that full advantage has yet been taken of the existence of the school. This is to some extent however due to the fact that the rules relating to admission to the school were too stringent, and excluded boys who could have been with advantage admitted. They have since been relaxed, and it is hoped that the committal of boys to jail except in very exceptional cases will cease. The report of the Reformatory School shows that the health and conduct of the boys is generally good. Five were licensed to employers during the year and are well reported on. The reformatory system for the mental and physical training of adolescent convicts is being continued at Lahore and Montgomery, and affords ground for hope that success is being attained in the work of reforming incipient criminals.

Nature of sentences and classification of criminals.

67. Prisoners sentenced to terms of six months and under amounted to a little over 56 per cent. of the whole, as compared with 53·5 per cent. in the preceding year. On the other hand prisoners sentenced to long terms continue to be received in increasing numbers, sentences of transportation for life going up from 116 to 150. Orders have been received directing the reconsideration of the cases of transportation prisoners who owing to unfitness have not been sent to the Andamans and have remained more than 14 years in jail, and also of prisoners sentenced to cumulative sentences of more than 14 years' imprisonment, with a view to their release if the circumstances warrant such a course. It is worth remark that 37 per cent. of the convicts in 1905 had terms of solitary confinement combined with imprisonment while the percentage in the United Provinces in 1904 was 8 and in Bengal only 1. Of the convicts who were admitted to jail in 1905 14 per cent. had been previously convicted ; this percentage varies little from year to year and ranges from 13 to 16, and a comparison with England, where the percentage in 1904 was 51, suggests that many prisoners escape recognition. But there has been a distinct improvement of late years in the classification of prisoners as casuals or habituals. Only 17 convicts were classed as habituals after admission to jail as compared with 50 in 1904 and 736 in 1890. Great diversity however still exists in different districts in this matter.

Discipline.

68. It is a most striking and satisfactory feature of the report that, although fetters have been only imposed for purposes of safe custody in under 2,000 cases as compared with over 3,000 in 1904, the year has been a record one in freedom from escapes, of which only one occurred, while attempts to escape declined from 16 to 3. In 1892, when fetters were imposed as a matter of course on all long-sentence convicts and the number reached 9,000, there were 28 escapes. Offences fell to a little under 38,000, a drop of 10 per cent., 69 per cent. of these being offences relating to work. The percentage of major offences to average jail population fell from 124 to 115. The employment of corporal punishment has continued to decline : 86 whippings were inflicted as compared with 101 in 1904 and 336 in 1892. Only one man got ill from the effects and his injuries were slight. The imposition of fetters is a form of punishment in increasing use and accounts for two-thirds of the 12,000 major punishments inflicted during the year. Over 3,100 convicts were released under the remission rules ; over 4,400 gained extra or special marks ; and more than Rs. 1,000 were awarded for unusual diligence. The question of a revision of the mark system is now before Government.

Cost, employment, and health of prisoners.

69. The average cost per head of the prison population was Rs. 67-3-7 as compared with Rs. 64-13-3 in 1904 and Rs. 63-7-3 in 1903. The increase is mainly due to a rise in the prices of food-grains. A third of the convict

population was employed on manufactures, and eight of the larger jails show substantial cash profits from this source. The average cash earnings per head of those employed on manufactures were Rs. 30-12-0 as against Rs. 34-11-0 in 1904; the decrease is due to the fact that the unsold stock in hand at the end of 1905 was considerably greater than that at the end of the preceding year: the gross profit on manufactures was substantially higher than in 1904. Paper making and litho-printing for Government purposes are the two most remunerative industries. The health of the jails was most excellent, the death-rate being only 16·34 *per mille*; only once, in 1896, has it been lower. The death-rate of males between 20 and 60 for the whole province was in the same year 31·54—a sufficiently remarkable contrast. Cholera and plague made their appearance in three jails, but owing to prompt precautions only 8 lives were lost from these causes. In July 1905 Colonel Bate, C. I. E., gave over charge of the Jail Department after over 14 years' service as Inspector-General, during which time the jail administration underwent the most far reaching reforms in every branch, and attained a standard of efficiency almost entirely due to his administrative aptitude and energy.

22. Civil Justice.

Institutions.

70. There has been a steady decrease in the volume of civil litigation for several years past, and in the year 1905 this downward tendency becomes a sharp drop with the reduction of institutions to less than 156,500, a fall of 26 per cent. The decrease is almost entirely confined to suits for money or moveable property, and it seems clear that its main cause is the extension by Act I of 1904 of the period of limitation in suits for money lent from three to six years. How far this decrease is likely to be permanent cannot be said until the period of limitation of suits thus extended begins to expire, as will happen in 1907. A secondary cause of the decrease in litigation is the Land Alienation Act (XIII of 1900); witness the continued decline in suits by money-lenders against agriculturists. These suits have now decreased from nearly 106,000 in 1901 to just over 62,750 in 1905, a drop in five years of nearly 42 per cent. which puts the effect of the Act in this direction beyond question. Suits for pre-emption were to a certain extent stimulated by the new Pre-emption Act II of 1905, which came into force on May 11th; but it cannot be said with certainty how far the increase was due to the agriculturist taking advantage of his improved status to eject outsiders, and how far to the institution of suits in anticipation of the passing of the Act by those who would be excluded from the right of pre-emption by its operation: the latter cause probably predominated. Matrimonial suits continued to rise, the reason apparently being in this as in the former year, that the disproportionately high mortality among women due to plague has appreciated the value of the survivors in the matrimonial market. Such suits generally take the form of a suit instituted against a widow by some relation of her deceased husband, the plaintiff alleging that the widow has gone through a form of marriage with him, whereas the woman has really married some one else against the wishes of her late husband's relatives. The registration of marriages which has been started in several Muhammadan districts has however proved an effectual check to matrimonial litigation, both criminal and civil. There appears an increasing tendency to institute suits to contest alienations of ancestral property on the ground that the alienation was not made under the stress of necessity. The decision of such cases depends to a large extent on the personal equation of the Judge, and the consequent diversity of practice is put forward as an argument for the codification of the customary law, a thorny question which may possibly come under consideration. Taken all together, the average value of suits has risen to nearly Rs. 152 from Rs. 126 in 1904 and Rs. 108 in 1903, while suits of less than Rs. 100 in value have fallen off in a marked manner. But against the decline in the number of petty suits for money and moveable property (the cause of which may, as has been said, be only temporary) must be set a rise in suits of an intricate and contentious character, which forbids the supposition that the litigious spirit of the people of the Punjab is on the wane.

Disposals.

71. The general drop in institutions has been accompanied by a decrease in disposals, but the pending file in subordinate courts has been lightened by 5,400 cases, and suits pending for more than three years have been reduced by 931. The average duration of suits was 29 days in uncontested and 51 in contested cases, an improvement in each class of one day. This result is at first sight somewhat disappointing, as the number of cases decided after a contest was roughly only 54,000, or 11,000 less than last year. But the decrease was confined to suits for money and moveables, the simplest class to decide, and the average difficulty of each case was distinctly greater than in 1904, especially in the courts of Munsifs who are being sent more land suits for disposal than used to be the case. District Judges were in eight districts employed throughout the year exclusively on civil work: the results were satisfactory in two districts only. Generally speaking there has been apparent and distinct and widespread improvement in the procedure of the courts of the Province during the last four or five years.

Execution of decrees.

72. It is still unfortunately the case that the suitor who has obtained a decree has yet a long way to go before he gets his money, the percentage of realizations to the total amount decreed remaining at 24 as in the two former years. While the chief remedy lies in greater interest taken in execution work by presiding officers, it is also true that the present Code of Civil Procedure offers many loopholes to a recalcitrant judgment-debtor, which it is hoped that the coming revision of the code will do something to obstruct.

Appellate work.

73. There has been a satisfactory decline in the number and average duration of appeals in the courts of District Judges. In Divisional Courts appeals were presented in 28 per cent. of the appealable orders passed, as compared with 24 per cent. in the previous year. The pending file of Divisional Judges continues to rise in spite of the appointment of additional Divisional Judges, and there seems little doubt but that the increased volume of work, both civil and criminal, which has come before these officers of late years demands an increase in the number of civil divisions. The cost of the additional Judges appointed during the year was little less than that of two new divisions. In the Chief Court both institutions and disposals rose considerably, the rise in disposals being due to $2\frac{1}{2}$ months' work by the four additional Judges appointed to clear off arrears.

Guardians and Wards Act.

74. In January 1905 the Chief Court issued new rules under section 50 (1) of the Guardians and Wards Act, VIII of 1890, with the object of ensuring that courts should exercise a really effective control over the management of minors' estates after the appointment of guardians. A great improvement appears to have taken place in consequence of these rules. The guardian is now on appointment required to furnish a bond giving adequate security for his proper administration of the property, and is directed to produce at certain fixed intervals detailed accounts showing all transactions connected with the estate since his assumption of management.

23.—Registration.

75. There were 58,813 documents compulsorily registered in 1905; this is a slight numerical decrease, but their value rose from 389 to 419 lakhs. Sales increased by 851 in number and by $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in value, but mortgages fell by 891 and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The increase in sales is attributed to the rise in the value of land and to increased confidence in this form of property as an investment, while the decrease in mortgages may be accounted for partly by the very fair Spring harvest of 1905 and partly by the extension of the period of limitation for money debts. Gifts and leases tend to decrease, and the figures do not support the idea

that much evasion of the Land Alienation Act is being carried on by these means. There is a continued decline in both the number and value of deeds relating to immoveable property optionally presented for registration. This is partly due to a ruling of the Chief Court (56 of 1900) which established in the case of two competing documents, the earlier of which was unregistered in virtue of the option allowed by the Act, that notice of the prior document should be relevant, and that it should be presumed that the second transferee had notice if the original transferee was in possession. This overruled a former judgment which had made such notice immaterial and is gradually finding its way to the public. Also the rise in the value of land necessarily tends to remove transfers from the optional to the compulsory class.

24. Local Boards Administration.

Constitution of district and local boards.

76. The only new board created in 1905-06 was that of Lyallpur, the district board of Jhang being reconstituted at the same time. A report on the desirability of abolishing local boards in Ferozepore was under consideration at the end of the year.

Elections.

77. The elective system is practically not existent in the Ráwalpindi and Multán divisions, and elsewhere little interest was taken in the elections except in the districts of Karnál, Ludhiána and Siálkot.

Meetings and working of district boards.

78. In most districts the boards met 4 or 5 times during the year. The attendance at meetings was generally fair. The working of the boards has been satisfactory, and intervention by controlling officers has hardly ever been required. But it is still difficult to utilise the services of members in the practical work of administration, and it has been in the past found that the surplus funds left at the disposal of the boards after satisfying the demands of the various spending departments are so small as to leave no scope for local initiative. This is, however, an evil which the distribution of the grant of 6⅓ lakhs should go far to remedy, and it is hoped that the provision of sufficient funds to meet local needs will give ample scope for the development of a new interest in local government.

25. Municipal Administration.

Constitution of Committees.

79. The towns of Chiniot Road and Toba Tek Singh were constituted notified areas; the boundaries of the notified area of Gojra were extended; and the octroi limits of Siálkot and Dera Ghází Khan were revised so as to include new extensions of these towns. A system was sanctioned of electing members by wards in Ambála, a step which it is hoped will put an end to any grounds of complaint of under representation by the Muhammadan community. The proportion of elected to nominated members was changed in Ferozepore, where the municipal commissioners have for many years been the subject of unfavourable report. The constitution of Pákpattan was revised after the close of the year.

Elections.

80. There were 312 vacancies in seats filled by election, but only 107 contested elections; the percentage of voters polled varied from 45 to 69. With certain exceptions the elections appear to have roused but little interest. Trafficking in votes is reported from one municipality, but popular feeling is said to be strongly against such malpractices.

Working of Committees.

81. As regards the numbers of meetings and the attendance of members the committees of Delhi, Simla and Ráwalpindi have set a good example; the committees of the Ráwalpindi division as a whole have done well, and marked improvement is reported from the Multán division. In the case of towns where business is insufficient to make a meeting at least once a month necessary, and where this is not due to over-interference from the central office of the district, a strong case appears to exist for considering their relegation to the status

of notified areas; and it is further to be remarked that there are 35 municipalities with incomes of under Rs. 6,000 in whose case this change might be urged on grounds of economy. The work of sub-committees demands no remark, and the formal interference of Deputy Commissioners has been rarely called for and never in any matter of great importance. Orders will shortly issue on the question of reducing the central controlling establishments, and giving to committees greater powers of sanctioning expenditure.

The Municipal Account Code and peripatetic audit.

82. The great event of the year has been the introduction throughout the province of the Municipal Account Code which prescribes for all municipalities one standard set of forms of account. The substitution for the various methods formerly to be found in the municipalities of the Province, many at once cumbersome and inadequate to fix responsibility, of a clear and generally understood system, is expected to remove a fertile source of irregularities. Together with the introduction of the Code was effected throughout the province a reorganization of the municipal staffs The peripatetic audit of Local Fund Accounts was unable to take up the accounts of all municipalities for 1905-06 in that year, but has done good work in bringing to light irregularities and awakening local interest in municipal administration. Serious irregularities were disclosed in 16 municipalities, including Hissar, Delhi, Amritsar, Dalhousie, Siálkot and Ráwalpindi, and in five others, though nothing very serious was revealed, the state of things was found to be far from desirable. The accounts of Simla, Lahore, Multán, Gurdáspur and Jullundur were, on the other hand, satisfactory.

Other rules framed by Government or by Committees.

83. Bye-laws requiring the registration of names of children were passed by a large number of municipalities in the Delhi division. The Simla bye-laws were amended in several important respects. Building bye-laws were passed or revised in about 10 municipalities, and new hackney carriage rules were framed in Multán.

Taxation.

84. The only new taxes imposed during the year were on vehicles at Hissar and Fázilka. Taxation of potable liquors was discontinued by the Simla municipality, and in consequence of the earthquake the levy of octroi was temporarily suspended in the municipalities of the Kángra district. The new Municipal Account Code has introduced a new system of collection of octroi, and, among other changes, enforces the grants of refunds on all exports without demanding proof of previous import, thus, it is hoped, obviating the taxation of through traffic. The new system entails an increase in expenditure on barriers and establishment, and it is possible that the smaller municipalities, in which the cost of collection of octroi is proportionately to income far greater than in large ones, may be obliged to resort to some less expensive form of taxation, if indeed their reduction to the status of notified areas is not indicated. The policy of free refunds introduced by the new Code has been on its trial during the year, but has not, except in Ráwalpindi and Ludhiána, been reported to have jeopardised even temporarily the financial stability of committees. It is, however, unfortunate that in Simla the refunds have amounted to as much as 24 per cent. of the gross income received from octroi. The experience of some large municipalities show that a bonded warehouse if worked on proper principles is appreciated by the mercantile community. The octroi schedules generally have had to be revised in consequence of the new Code, and considerable progress with this work has been made in the Delhi and Múltán divisions. The provincial incidence of taxation (Rs. 1-11-3 per head) is largely due to the high figures for hill stations. The amount and variation of the proceeds of taxation are discussed below in section 46.

General.

85. Cholera broke out at Lahore and Shujabad and small-pox was prevalent during part of the year at Lahore, Amritsar and Ludhiána. Plague was less serious than in the preceding year; all divisions were visited by it, but in those of Ráwalpindi and Multán the towns escaped severe attacks. Serious fires took place at Simla and Kálábágh, and at Lahore the premises of the Bank of Bengal were burnt down. Drainage and water-supply schemes and other public improvements are discussed in sections 34 and 51.

26. Military (Volunteers).

Strength and distribution of Volunteer Forces.

86. The strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1906 is reported to have been as follows :—

Corps.	Company.	Station.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficients.	Sergeant Instructors.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	6	...	...	6	6	[illegible]
	A	Lahore	3	9	64	76	48	...
	B	Ambála	2	8	37	47	35	...
	C	Ráwalpindi	3	8	66	77	57	...
	D	Pálampur	...	1	4	5	5	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	51	52	52	...
		Add for Supernumerary Officers	...	...	...	3	...	...
		Total ...	15	26	222	266	203	[illegible]
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	7	...	...	7	7	10
	A, B, C and Cadet ½ Company.	Lahore	8	37	204	249	247	...
	D	Ráwalpindi	3	14	72	89	84	...
	E	Amritsar	1	5	22	28	28	...
	F	Delhi	2	5	37	44	44	...
	G & H	Murree	5	12	46	63	56	...
	K	Ferozepore	2	9	55	66	60	...
	L	Srinagar	2	4	43	49	45	...
	L. Sec.	Siálkot	1	2	9	12	10	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	...	91	...	...
		Add for Supernumerary Officers	...	...	...	17	...	...
		Total ...	31	88	488	715	581	10
Simla Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	6	...	...	6	6	3
	A	Simla	2	9	37	48	46	...
	B		3	11	84	98	93	...
	C		2	8	33	43	42	...
	D		3	9	59	71	71	...
	E		2	10	42	54	50	...
	F	Sanáwar and Kasauli	1	3	96	100	16	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Officers ...	7	...	...	7	...	...
		Total ...	26	50	351	427	324	3
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	10
	A	Karáchi City	4	5	44	53	50	...
	B	Multán	2	9	130	141	137	...
	C	Lahore	4	14	182	200	187	...
	D	Lahore	2	15	78	95	92	...
	E	Ambála	3	7	61	71	71	...
	F	Saháranpur	5	15	103	123	121	...
	G	Kotri	1	8	69	78	77	...
	H	Lahore	3	12	97	112	108	...
	I	Quetta	3	10	68	81	81	...
	K	Ráwalpindi	2	18	110	130	128	...
	L	Sukkar	4	12	80	96	93	...
	M	Karáchi City	2	9	62	73	73	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Members ...	...	...	...	9	...	...
		Total ...	44	134	1,084	1,271	1,227	10

Inspections.

87. The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifle Corps and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in March 1906, and the Simla Volunteer Rifles in October 1905. The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below:—

Agriculture.—(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1905.

(2) Annual Report of the Experimental Farm, Lyallpur, for the autumn and spring harvests 1904-05.

(3) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1906.

(4) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1905-06.

(5) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1905.

(6) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1906.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the Meteorology and Climatology of the Punjab for the year 1905-06.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1905-06.

Horticulture.—Annual Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens' Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1906.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1905-06.

Arboriculture.—Progress Report on the Arboriculture in the Punjab for the triennial period 1902-03 to 1904-05.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Reports on the working of the Dandot Colliery for the half-years ending 30th June 1905 and 31st December 1905.

(2) Statement showing the produce of minerals and gems for the calendar year 1905.

Manufactures.—Report on the working of the Factories Act during the year 1905.

Trade.—(1) Report on the Internal Land Trade of the Punjab for the year ending March 31st, 1906.

(2) Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1905-06.

(3) Report by the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies on the working of the Joint Stock Companies in the Punjab during the year 1905-06.

Irrigation.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department in the Punjab for the year ending 31st March 1906.

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Agriculture.—Prices and Wages in India, 23rd issue, 1905.

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Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1905.

Manufactures.—Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 11th issue, Table XIX.

Financial and Commercial Statistics, 13th issue, sections XXI Cotton Mills and XXVIII Sundry Industries.

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the calendar year 1905.

Trade.—Accounts of the trade carried by rail and river in India, 18th issue.]

27. Agriculture.

Agricultural Department.

88. A most important event in the history of the province is the organization of the Provincial Agricultural Department, which was set on foot in 1904-05 and took shape in the following year, and for which a recurring grant of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, supplemented out of provincial funds, was allotted from the beginning of the financial year 1905-06. The Department of Agriculture was separated from that of Land Records on 1st July 1906, and placed under a separate Director, whose head-quarters are at Lyallpur and who will also control the Agricultural Department of the North-West Frontier Province.* Sanction has been received for the construction at a cost of four lakhs of a combined Agricultural College and Research Institute at Lyallpur, the staff including a Principal and Professor of Agriculture, an Agricultural Chemist, and an Economic Botanist. It is further proposed to extend the Lyallpur experimental farm to 500 acres, and to establish a second large farm in the Eastern Punjab. Five smaller farms will be established for tracts whose conditions are peculiar, such as the sandy plains of scanty and uncertain rainfall in Hissar, Sirsa and Fázilka, and the Salt Range plateau. The establishment of the Department will be largely increased, and will provide a skilled Assistant Director for work in each district.

Experimental farms.

89. The experimental cultivation of wheat, cotton and other staples was carried on at Lyallpur. A bullock-drawn reaping machine was imported, and its working warrants the belief that it would be well worth adoption by the cultivators of the Chenab colony, where labour is scarce. Hydraulic experiments were carried on here and elsewhere in the province with a view to determining the most economical number of waterings and the most economical quantity of water required at each watering, but in both years the results were inconclusive owing to ample winter rains. Six hundred and sixteen acres were taken up in 1904-05 for a seed farm at Sargodha on the Lower Jhelum canal. The result of experiments with cotton at these two farms and elsewhere go to show that the yield of acclimatised American cotton is equal to that of good indigenous cottons, and its comparative immunity from boll-worm was noticed throughout the Jhelum colony. The classification of kinds of wheat has been brought to a close and the varieties of the Province reduced to 24 types.

Agricultural operations in the districts.

90. A good start has been made in Lyallpur, Lahore, Gurgaon, Hissar and Dera Ghàzi Khan in the work of selecting and distributing seed of good indigenous varieties of cotton, fineness and length of staple being subordinated to a high proportion of lint to seed. Sowings of American cotton in 1905 were ruined by boll-worm in the Chenab colony, but showed some degree of resistance on the Jhelum. Measures were taken by the department to instruct the people of the districts which suffered from boll-worm in preventing a recurrence by ploughing up and burning the cotton stalks, sowing *bhindi* as a trap crop, and reintroducing the parasitic enemy of the boll-worm. The Agricultural Assistant employed on entomological research was fully occupied in 1905-06. Interesting experiments were made with aëromotors for raising water at Miánwáli, but the results so far are inconclusive. The experimental introduction of chrome leather water buckets for wells has so far been a failure. Agricultural associations have been formed in Hissar and Lyallpur which promise to do good work.

The Punjab Veterinary College.

91. The whole of the native teaching staff and students of the Ajmer Veterinary School, consisting of 3 teachers and 20 students, were transferred to the Punjab Veterinary College on 1st April 1905, and in addition a third English Professor was appointed. There has been at the same time a great improvement in accommodation: a new out-patient clinic is being constructed, a new lecture room and laboratory have been built for contagious cases, and sanction has been given to the erection of a large anatomical room and a students' hostel. There were 209 students under tuition, and courses of training were also provided for 65 transport dressers and 9 farriers. The high demand for graduates continues, and apparently all the men who completed their courses obtained employment. There has been a considerable extension of research work, and a satisfactory feature of the year's working is the co-operation of the College and the Provincial Department in the investigation of disease. The earnings of the College have increased, and in particular the income from the dog hospital has more than doubled, and this institution will probably soon be self-supporting.

* An incidental result of the separation is that the report on Agriculture is issued earlier than was formerly the case, and can be included in the Administration Report of the same year. So this and the succeeding two sections deal with two years 1904-05 and 1905-06.

Civil Veterinary Department.

92. The staff of the Civil Veterinary Department was increased during the year by the appointment of a third Superintendent to be in charge of the Ráwalpindi division and the Miánwáli district in addition to controlling the veterinary work of the North-West Frontier Province. The sanctioned increase in the number of Inspectors from 6 to 12 did not take place until after the close of the year under report. Ninety-six Veterinary Assistants were employed. There are now 12 Veterinary Hospitals at work in the province, of which those at Gujrát, Multán and Murree were opened during the year. These institutions are much appreciated, and treated over 26,500 cases, an increase of more than 6,000. Apart from foot and mouth disease, which is always a variable quantity and appeared very little in the year under report, there has been a steady increase in the number of cases of serious contagious disease brought to notice, as well as in the number of cases of all kinds treated in villages and in hospitals and dispensaries. Serious outbreaks of *surra* occurred in the Lahore and Ferozepore districts and were dealt with by the Army Remount Department. *Surra* and lymphangitis epizootica were scheduled in the city and civil station of Lahore under the Glanders and Farcy Act. Instructions were issued for the detection and suppression of dourine in the non-selected districts. Outbreaks of rinderpest occurred in 22 districts, but there was also a considerable increase in inoculations against this disease which rose from under 18,000 in 8 districts to over 50,000 in 21. Over 7,000 inoculations in 8 districts were made with the preventive serum against hæmorrhagic septicæmia.

Breeding operations.

93. There were 214 stud bulls in the districts on the 31st March 1906. Thirty-one bulls were supplied from the Hissar farm, and these animals are generally appreciated in the southern districts. As the supply is not sufficient to meet the demand of the province, a scheme for a bull farm at Sargodha has been sanctioned, and it is hoped to issue 50 bulls a year suitable to the northern districts of the Punjab. In the districts which have not been selected for the operations of the Army Remount Department a scheme has been sanctioned for assisting district boards in the purchase of stallions; and the standard scale to be kept up by these districts has been fixed at 62 horses and 68 donkeys, of which 20 horses and all the donkeys are replaceable by Government. Considerable difficulty has been found in obtaining donkey stallions, and the Government of India have recently offered the province financial assistance towards the purchase of donkeys from Cyprus.

Condition of cattle.

94. The failure of the monsoon of 1905 caused a very severe fodder famine in the tracts which depend on the autumn harvest for the renewal of their supplies of fodder, and the resources of the peasantry of the Delhi division were severely taxed to keep their cattle alive. *Bhúsa** was imported from the canal tracts, but in spite of special reductions of freight, the price was very high, and leaves and twigs were largely consumed. Many cattle were sold or driven away, and serious losses occurred. Some scarcity of fodder was reported from the Central Punjab, but in the rest of the province fodder was generally sufficient or even abundant.

Agricultural pests.

95. The autumn harvest of 1905 is notable for the almost complete destruction by boll-worm of the cotton crop in the Central and South-West Punjab. The failure of rain from the middle of July to the middle of September had given the plants a set-back, and during this time two pests were at work, the cotton semilooper in the Jhelum colony, and the cotton aphis (*tela*) throughout most of the province. These pests further weakened the plants at a critical time, but had disappeared before the September rain fell. After the rain the cotton grew luxuriantly, but the flowers, buds and young bolls were destroyed as they formed, by boll-worm, and so great was the damage done that plants actually vigorous and healthy produced little or no cotton. The extraordinary spread of this pest is explained by the absence from the majority of the cotton districts of the important parasite which generally checks the boll-worm, and this in its turn is probably attributable to the abnormal cold of the preceding winter. Nothing could be done to avert the calamity in 1905, but various measures have been tried, such as the sowing of trap crops and the reintroduction of the parasite, to prevent or at any rate mitigate a repetition of the calamity.

* *Bhúsa*: dry fodder made of the pounded straw of cereals or pulses.

Loans to agriculturists.

96. One and three quarter lakhs were advanced under Act XIX of 1883 for land improvements in 1904-05, an increase of a quarter of a lakh. There is a marked rise in the advances in Gurgaon, Montgomery, Lahore, Attock and Multán. Over Rs. 30,000 were remitted in Hissar which had been advanced in the famine of 1899-1900 for unbricked wells which have since proved useless. Under Act XII of 1884 there were given as advances for the purchase of bullocks and seed over three and three quarter lakhs as compared with less than one and a quarter in 1903-04; out of this over two lakhs were distributed in Kángra on account of the earthquake. The practice of personal distribution of loans by responsible officers is growing in favour. In accordance with recent orders of the Government of India the rules for the distribution of loans are under revision.

Co-operative credit societies.

97. It is however hoped that the cultivator will cease to be wholly dependent for financial assistance either on the money-lender or on Government. The system of co-operative credit had existed to a quite insignificant extent in three districts of the Punjab, when it was determined, in response to a resolution of the Government of India, dated 29th April 1904, to take measures for the active encouragement of this kind of self-help under the new Act X of 1904. An officer was appointed as Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies in October 1904 to give advice and assistance to the people in organising such societies. The results have so far been most encouraging. By 31st March 1906, 151 societies had been registered. These for the most part fall under three types. One is the Panjáwar type (so-called from the place of that name in Hoshiárpur where it originated), where the village community manages the common land of the village and applies the income to the improvement of the land, to redeeming the mortgages of members and to making loans. The second is the Miánwáli type, the capital of which consists of voluntary subscriptions in grain not returnable for 10 years. The grain is partly kept for seed advances and partly sold for money advances, and the interest charged and other profits form the permanent indivisible capital of the society. The third form has no share capital, and operates with fixed money deposits bearing interest which it uses for lending out to members at higher rates of interest than that allowed to depositors. A combination of the last two types seems most popular.

Prices.

98. Owing to the good spring harvest of 1905 there were abundant stocks of spring food-grains in June and July, but the partial failure of the harvest in the United Provinces kept prices up. The apparent failure of the monsoon resulted in a period of wild speculation early in September, and though the September rains caused a sharp recovery before the end of the month, prices remained high throughout the autumn. There was another advance in February when the fate of the spring harvest was doubtful; after the rain dispelled all apprehensions, prices declined steadily, but in spite of the splendid harvest, continued, on the average, between warning and scarcity rates. Throughout the year prices were affected by the scarcity in the United Provinces, Rájpútána and Bombay. Actual scarcity was confined to the Delhi division.

28. Weather and Crops.

The annual rains.

99. Spring showers were frequent and general in 1905, up to the middle of March, and there were further falls in the Northern Punjab at the end of the month. Then followed three dry months. The first burst of the monsoon in the Punjab was in the second week of July 1905, when the weather was affected by a depression which, passing from the Bay across the head of the Peninsula into Gujerát and the Indus valley, produced a strong inflow of humid winds from the Arabian Sea into Upper India, and gave moderately heavy general rain over the whole province from the 11th to the 14th, and local falls in the hills and submontane tracts till the 16th. Another depression passing over the head of the Peninsula gave local rain from July 18th to 26th. From that date till the 9th September practically no rain fell except in the hills and the immediate neighbourhood. On the 6th and 7th September a depression developed off the Circars Coast, and then passed through the Central Provinces, Central India and Sind, reaching the Punjab on the 12th and breaking up in the Himálayás the same day. This storm gave general rain

over the whole of Upper India and Kashmír and caused serious floods on the Jhelum; with the dispersion of this depression the monsoon withdrew from the Punjab. With very few local exceptions the season's rainfall was in defect throughout the province. The Multán division suffered worst, less than an inch falling at Muzaffargarh and Dera Ghází Khan. The Delhi division was the next worst sufferer, Rohtak receiving only 4·40 inches instead of its normal fall of 17·46. Elsewhere the defect was not so great, but throughout the province the greater part of the monsoon rainfall fell in the storm of September 9th to 14th, which, while of the greatest value for the spring sowings and for bringing on grass for fodder, was too late to help the autumn sowings. The rainfall before September 9th was only in one plains' district (Montgomery) less than 40 per cent. in defect, and was from one-tenth to one-half of the normal in 18 districts. The winter rains began on December 12th, and rain fell at all stations except Delhi in the succeeding week. Heavy and general rain occurred in the middle of February and in the last week of March, and there were intermittent rains at other times throughout the season. With one exception the winter rains were in excess throughout the province, in most places very largely so.

The autumn harvest.

100. The early spring rains were favourable for the cultivation of sugar-cane and also, in the Central and South-West Punjab, for cotton. On the first outburst of the rains in July, sowings were made on a considerable scale throughout the province, and further large areas were prepared for cultivation in expectation of continued rain. This hope was however not fulfilled, with the result that the area sown was little more than 10½ million acres, 14 per cent. below the average of the four preceding years. The two months' drought that followed withered the crops sown on unirrigated lands outside submontane tracts, and the rain in September came too late to save them, though it was beneficial to irrigated crops, and also to unirrigated crops in submontane districts which had received a few showers in August. Yields were slightly below the average on irrigated and poor to *nil* on unirrigated land: the cotton crop was practically a total loss on the canals of the Central and South-West Punjab, owing to boll-worm, and while no less than 1⅘ million acres were sown, a record figure, the matured area was only just over two-thirds of a million and the outturn of cleaned cotton 155,000 bales. Sugarcane was only sown on half the usual area on account of scarcity of seed, due to the frosts of January 1904; 135,000 acres were matured, 45 per cent. of the normal. A million acres of maize were cropped, 829,000 of spiked millet and 694,000 of great millet. Owing to the scanty rainfall fodder crops occupied a large area—two million acres. On the whole, the gross outturn of the autumn harvest was very poor indeed, amounting to only six and a quarter million acres, two-thirds of the normal. 45 per cent. of the area cropped was irrigated.

The spring harvest.

101. The spring harvest however presents a very different aspect. There was abundance of moisture in the soil for sowing, and after the bad autumn harvest large areas were available which had lain fallow or on which cotton or other crops had failed. The moisture in the soil was renewed by the December rains which enabled further late sowings to be made, and the sown area reached 17½ million acres, giving the promise of a record crop. Then followed seven weeks of dry weather which raised the gravest fears that the spring harvest would be as great a failure as its predecessor, and prices rose to scarcity rates. But the downpour of the second week in February, though too late to save the rape in the south of the province, was just in time to save the wheat, barley and gram, and the season was a record one as regards both area and yield. Only Rohtak, Delhi and Gurgaon fared badly. The total area harvested was 15½ million acres, an increase of 14 per cent. on last year, and just beating the previous record of 1901 when 15⅗ million acres were matured. The area of wheat harvested was 8½ million acres, producing 3½ million tons, the best on record; gram accounted for nearly 3 million acres, barley for nearly 1¼ million, and oilseeds for a million.

General results of the year.

102. The autumn harvest with the complete failure of the unirrigated crops except in the submontane tracts, and the damage done to the cotton crop and the contraction of the area under sugarcane was one of the worst on record.

The southern districts of the Delhi division were brought to the verge of famine and regained very little ground in the spring harvest, but the west of the province, where the autumn harvest is not so important, was in a position to take full advantage of the September rainfall, and the bumper spring crop more than compensated for the losses in the autumn. Over the whole province the area matured in both harvests was 21¾ million acres, one per cent. above normal.

29. Horticulture and Arboriculture.

Horticulture.

103. The deluge of rain that fell at Lahore in September 1905 did considerable damage to the pot plants in the agri-horticultural gardens, but the winter was favourable and very few plants suffered from frost. The nurseries have been largely extended, and when they are in perfect working order there should be no difficulty in meeting the demand for fruit trees, hedging trees, shrubs, &c., which at present exceeds the supply. The young Malta orange plants imported from Italy in 1904 are doing very well, but the pears, peaches and plums imported from England are not making such good progress. Much has been done towards improving the appearance of the gardens. The four gardens of Shahdara, Shálimár, Kudsia and Roshanára were maintained by Government as before. Gardens are maintained by many district boards, the most important of which are the Rámbágh at Amritsar and the gardens at Gujránwála.

Arboriculture.

104. Five hundred and ninety-nine miles of avenues were planted by district boards in the three years ending with 1904-05, but a quarter failed and the length of avenues added was 287 miles, chiefly in Miánwáli and the Chenab and Jhelum colonies. Fifty-three per cent. of the roads in the charge of local bodies suitable for arboriculture are now stocked. The operations caused on the whole a net loss of about a lakh and a third of rupees, but 11 district boards managed to carry them on at a profit. A sum of 1½ lakhs has been set aside for arboriculture out of the grant of 6½ lakhs made to district boards by the Government of India. The Irrigation Department planted during the triennium over a thousand miles of avenues, of which little over a third failed, and some 2,700 acres of plantations, of which a-fifth failed. The net cost was over 3 lakhs. The department has now stocked over half the length suitable for tree planting. Seventy-three miles were planted by the Public Works Department; 57 per cent. of whose roads are now planted. Their operations produced a profit of Rs. 16,000. On the whole, the result of the triennium shows that more care than previously was devoted to the subject of arboriculture. Two leading principles have been impressed on local bodies,—the necessity of enlisting the active help of the villagers, and of employing properly trained experts as District Foresters.

30. Forests.

Area.

105. There were at the end of March 1906, 9,493 square miles of forests on the books of the Forest Department, of which 116 were civil or military and the rest under the department. This is a nominal increase of 266 square miles: but with the exception of 21 square miles of disafforested land reconstituted a protected forest, the additions to area are practically all in consequence of recalculation of area or previous omissions, while the areas excluded are for the most part actual and due to the surrender of land for colonization purposes. There were at the end of the year 1,938½ square miles of reserved forests, 5,168 protected, 1,851 unclassed State forests, and 535½ leased. No area was constituted a reserved forest during the year.

Settlements, demarcation and surveys.

106. The settlement is in progress of 15 square miles of unclassed State forests in Tera, Dera Chal, &c., which have been notified as proposed reserved forests, and the report on the demarcation and settlement of the forests in the valleys of the Pabar, Rupin and Giri rivers in the Bashahr division has been submitted to Government for orders. Some 245 miles of forest boundaries have been newly demarcated, chiefly in the Ráwalpindi and Jhelum divisions, where the existence of proprietary estates completely surrounded by forests makes the demarcation of inner as well as of outer boundaries necessary. Surveys on a scale of 4 inches to the mile were completed by the Imperial Forest Survey Branch in 19 square miles of the Margalla reserved forest in Ráwalpindi and in

2 square miles of unclassed State forest and 6 square miles of military reserves in Lahore. A 4-inch boundary survey of the forests of the Salt Range in Shahpur was also completed, a length of 614 miles.

Working plans.

107. In Bashahr the working plan for 63 square miles of the leased forests in the Sutlej valley was completed and sanctioned, as was also a revision of the working plan for the 164 square miles of the remainder of the forests of this valley. The field work of a working plan for 146 square miles in the Pabar valley has been completed. In the Simla Hill States the working plan for the Keonthal forests was accepted by the State. A revised working plan for the Sutlej valley forests, 164 square miles, was sanctioned by Government. In Jhelum a working plan was sanctioned for Bela Piraghaib by the Conservator as it was of the nature of a plan of operations and did not require Government sanction.

Forest offences.

108. There were a little under 5,000 offences against forest rules, an increase of about 500 as compared with the average of the three preceding years. The tendency on the part of offenders to compound offences continues to grow, and only 822 cases were brought into court, a decrease of 138 on the three former years. There was a regrettable recrudescence of incendiarism in Kángra, and proposals for closure of forests under section 32 of the Act are under consideration. The forests burnt were chiefly those in which the people enjoy free grazing, and the wilful firing that occurred in the dry season of 1906 shows little gratitude for the grants of money and timber made in consequence of the earthquake. Cases of unauthorised felling or appropriation of produce showed a tendency to increase.

Protection from fire.

109. Eight hundred and sixty-eight square miles of forests were specially protected from fire, an increase of three square miles, and of this 33 square miles or $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. were burnt as compared with only $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the previous year and 1 per cent. in 1903-04. There were also burnt 10 square miles of forest not under special protective measures. The wilful incendiarism in Kángra above referred to is chiefly responsible for this bad result; in that district nearly 26 square miles were burnt, 16 of which were under special protection. The Kalesar forest, Bashahr, and to a less degree, Kulu, also contributed. Of the total area burnt two-fifths was due to incendiarism.

Protection from cattle.

110. Less than 19 per cent. of the area under the Forest Department was entirely or partially closed to grazing during the year. Considerable damage is reported to have been done by the camels of the silladar and other camel corps, who do not appear to respect the conditions on which certain reserved and other forests were thrown open to them for browsing.

Sylviculture.

111. In the pine and deodár forests where aspect and soil are favourable natural reproduction is all that can be desired; but in glades and in areas recently burnt the humus is of course deficient, and here, and in other forests, particularly those near villages where excessive grazing hardens the surface soil, there is little if any regeneration. The fires in Kángra have done great damage in this respect, and it will be years before the humus is re-established. Generally speaking, reproduction has small chance where grazing is heavy, and as more than four-fifths of the forests in the province are, as it has been above said, open to grazing, it will be seen that the natural increase of the forest growth is seriously handicapped. As regards artificial reproduction, deodár is being introduced by sowing and planting in Chamba, Bashahr, Kulu and Simla, and by planting on a small scale, in Ráwalpindi, and is also being tried in a few of the Kángra forests. Oak-seed is being sown in Ráwalpindi and Kángra. The sowings of *shísham* (*Dalbergia sissoo*), *phulai* (*Acacia modesta*) and *kíkar* (*Acacia Arabica*) in the Chenab and Jhelum river-beds has not been attended with success, nor has that of *phulai* in the Pabbi forest. The experiments with Robinia have failed in their object of restocking the lower hills, but the tree succeeds well enough at elevations over 5,000 feet. The Spanish chestnut trees at Kulu appear to be healthy. The *Pinus Pinaster* still survives in Ráwalpindi, Chamba and Bashahr, but is not vigorous. Sowings of *Pinus Jeffreyi* have

succeeded well and of *Pinus attenuata* fairly well, while *catalpa* seems more promising than either ; *Pinus coulteri* and *Pseudotsuga macrocarpa* were not a success. *Eucalyptus globulus* and *rostrata* were sown near Simla and germinated, the former profusely, the latter sparingly.

Exploitation.

112. Nine and three quarter million cubic feet of timber were removed from the forests in 1905-06, as compared with three and four-fifths millions in the previous year. Of the increase of nearly six million cubic feet purchasers account for three and a half millions, right-holders for two millions, and Government agency for a third of a million. The increase of sales to purchasers occurred chiefly in Chamba and Bashahr, where an agreement has been made for the Upper Ravi forests and Government working in other forests has been largely discontinued, and Multán, where there is a large demand for building timber. The increase under Government agency and right-holders was mostly in Kángra and Kulu and was due to relief on account of the earthquake. The amount of firewood removed decreased from 28½ to 28 million cubic feet. The value of minor forest produce was five and a half lakhs, a little more than in the previous year. Owing to the closing of the resin distillery at Núrpur operations in crude resin and its products were restricted to the tapping of pines marked for early removal, whereby about 500 maunds of crude resin were produced. The forest selected for experimental tappings of all trees of 5 feet girth and over was unfortunately burnt. Nearly 4½ million cubic feet of timber were imported into the province, an increase of a million.

Financial results.

113. The revenue for 1905-06 was 17·8 lakhs and the expenditure 12·7 lakhs, leaving a surplus of 5·1 lakhs. These figures are not so good as those of the previous year when the revenue was greater (19 lakhs) and the expenditure (9·7 lakhs) much less, but this year's expenditure includes the first payment under the new lease of the Chamba State forests. The Rája used to get Rs. 21,000 as lease money and two-thirds of the net profits ; he now gets no lease money and the whole of the net profits whereby the payments to him have risen by two lakhs and a half. The decrease in revenue is more than accounted for by a fall of 1·4 lakhs caused by the cessation of exploitation works in Kulu. If these causes were allowed for, the surplus would be only a third of a lakh under that of 1904-05, and even as it is it is half a lakh above the average of the five years before that.

31. Mines and Quarries.

Gold.

114. Small quantities of gold to the value of about Rs. 10,000 were obtained from washings in the Indus, Jhelum and Sutlej, where they issue from the hills.

Coal.

115. There were working during 1905 eleven coal mines, but coal was produced at only five. The largest, that at Dandot in the Jhelum district, was opened in 1887 ; this year it produced 43,162 tons of coal as against 31,003 last year. The year's working showed a profit of Rs. 3,560 ; that of the second half of the year was over Rs. 16,000, and the loss in the first half was due to large working expenses caused by water in the mines as well as to the low price at which coal is supplied. There were five other mines working in Jhelum all opened in 1904, but only two produced any coal—the Chiti Dand mines (15,351 tons) and the Mitha Choa mines (3,105 tons). Three mines (opened in 1904) were working in Attock, but only one produced any coal, and that in small quantities. Two mines were started in Shahpur in 1905, of which one produced a small quantity of coal. The total out-put in the province was 62,622 tons, an increase of 12,028 tons on last year, and a daily average of a little over 2,000 persons was employed.

Salt.

116. Of the sources of salt in the Punjab the cis-Indus and Kálabágh mines of the Salt Range in 1905-06 issued 2,590,000 maunds of salt, of which 2,153,000 were from the Khewrah depôt ; those of Mandi issued 98,500, and the Sultánpur salt works 93,000 maunds.

Petroleum.

117. One thousand and five hundred gallons of petroleum were collected in the Miánwáli and Attock districts which were utilised in making gas for the barracks at Ráwalpindi.

Iron.

118. Four tons of iron ore were produced in Miánwáli.

32. Manufactures.

Industries shown in the factory report.

119. There were shown in the factory report for 1905, 225 Government and private factories worked by mechanical power as against 191 in the previous year. The increase is mainly in the number of cotton ginning, cleaning and pressing factories, which went up to 148. Thirteen of these are also flour or rice mills, and there were in addition 16 flour and 4 rice mills. Three mills for spinning or weaving cotton were closed in the preceding year, leaving six situated at Delhi, Lahore and Amritsar. Private iron and brass works and foundries rose from six to nine, situated at Delhi, Lahore, Ráwalpindi and Lyallpur. There were as in the preceding year three breweries and one woollen mill (that at Dháriwál) shown in the returns. Of Government factories, the iron works foundries at Ráwalpindi were closed in 1904, and the flour mill and forage press at Ambála were closed in 1905. Two engineering workshops were opened at Ráwalpindi.

General condition of factories.

120. One hundred and seventy-five out of the 225 factories were inspected. The result of the inspections was generally satisfactory; the provisions of the Factory Act as regards holidays and daily recess were generally observed; the sanitary conditions and arrangements were, except in the Lyallpur district, reported on as good; and the general health of the operatives was good. The arrangements for fencing and guarding machinery were generally satisfactory. There were 242 accidents in 1905 as compared with 189 in 1904. The increase is confined to minor accidents, the figures for fatal and serious accidents being the same as for last year. The average daily number of operatives employed was 22,768 men, 3,364 women and 1,068 children. The provisions of the Act as regards the employment of women and children were generally observed. One manager was prosecuted and two others warned. The general condition of the operatives is good, and in most cases the wages are higher than those paid to ordinary labourers.

33. Trade.

TRADE WITH OTHER PROVINCES AND STATES IN INDIA.

Total trade of the year.

121. The trade of the Punjab, a province almost wholly dependent on agriculture, is, both in volume and destination, very sensitive to the agricultural conditions not only within the province, but in other parts of India. In a normal year a principal feature of the trade of the province is the movement of wheat to Karáchi. But once let scarcity arise in the more eastern and southern parts of India, however good the harvest in the Punjab, this flow is at once checked, and while the wheat as the most valuable grain is kept up in reserve until the market shall more clearly declare itself, the effect of the suction is at once felt in the eastward movement of the coarser food-stuffs. In 1905 conditions of scarcity in Rájpútána, Cental India and elsewhere were combined with unfavourable harvests in the Punjab, where the frosts of January and February affected the outturn of wheat and oilseeds seriously and of sugar very seriously, and the cotton crop was almost entirely destroyed by boll-worm. The result was to reduce the weight of wheat exported by rail or river from nearly 32½ million to a little over 21 million maunds, and that of raw cotton by 370,500 maunds, while on the other hand all grains except wheat rose from under 10 million to over 12 million maunds. Taken altogether exports fell by close on 8 million maunds, though owing to the high price of grain the decrease in value was only a little over 29 lakhs. At the same time imports rose by nearly 10 million maunds and by the large amount of over 466½ lakhs, and were in value 372 lakhs more

than the imports. The following are the detailed figures of the trade by rail and river for the last three years :—

Years.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Rs.	Maunds.	Rs.
1903-04	21,934,931	15,09,47,156	36,105,550	14,66,66,094
1904-05	24,402,169	17,41,60,637	52,648,111	18,65,51,449
1905-06	34,263,417	22,08,15,208	43,175,238	18,36,15,724

The export trade in grain and pulse which represents roughly three-quarters of the whole trade shows similar fluctuations, 1905-06 coming intermediate between the two preceding years. The surplus exports of grain and pulse for 1905-06 were over 31 million maunds.

River-borne trade.

122. The trade by river with Sind is of little importance, representing in value only 3 per cent. of the exports and not more than a half per cent. of the imports. The volume of the exports contracted, but their value, owing to the high prices obtained for agricultural produce, expanded.

Imports.

123. The chief increases in imports are under raw cotton $80\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, European piece-goods $22\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, Indian piece-goods 55 lakhs, oilseeds of all kinds 40 lakhs, sugar and crude saccharine produce $140\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and railway materials $36\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Imports of sugar from Karáchi, Bombay and Calcutta have increased in weight by nearly 800,000 maunds and in value by over $51\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, a result due, no doubt, to the excellent beet crop on the continent of Europe, and to the inducements offered by foreign shipping companies in the shape of specially low freight charges to India : also it is believed that special rates to the ports of shipment are granted by continental railways. An advance of over 1,300,000 maunds of ***gur***,* worth more than 61 lakhs, is due to the destruction by frost of the seed cane throughout the province in January and February 1905. The main decreases in imports are in gunny bags for grain $15\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, and wrought iron and steel $20\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

Exports.

124. The effects of the scarcity in the countries lying to the east of the Punjab were very obvious in the changes in the exports of food-grains. The export of wheat to Karáchi fell by nearly $14\frac{1}{2}$ million maunds, and though this grain is less responsive to the demands of scarcity than the cheaper food-stuffs, exports to the United Provinces rose by over a million maunds and to Rájpútána and Central India by 800,000. The net decrease was $11\frac{1}{4}$ million maunds in weight and 166 lakhs in value. The export of gram and pulse to Karáchi decreased by 365,000 maunds, but that to Rájpútána and Central India increased by 705,000 and the net increase in the export of these grains was 336,000 maunds, in value $55\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The export of other grains increased by over $1\frac{3}{4}$ million maunds. Exports of raw cotton fell by 370,000 maunds ($51\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs) ; of rape and mustard seed by $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs; and of *gur* and other crude saccharine produce by $13\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The export of hides and skins increased by 61 lakhs owing to a brisk demand in Europe, and of oilseeds other than rape or mustard by 20 lakhs.

Distribution of trade.

125. Karáchi maintains its position as the chief emporium of Punjab trade, though from the causes related above its percentage of the total exports fell from 57 to $39\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and of total imports from $55\frac{1}{2}$ to $35\frac{3}{4}$. The second place, but at a great distance, is taken by the United Provinces. As regards the internal distribution of trade, the cis-Sutlej territory (excluding Delhi) where the coarser food-grains are chiefly produced, shows an increase of 5 per cent. in the volume of trade, while the wheat-producing Sutlej-Jhelum territory fell off by a similar amount.

Department of Commerce and Industry.

126. On the separation of the Department of Agriculture from that of Land Records which took place on July 1st, 1906, all subjects relating to Commerce and Industry were transferred from the office of the Financial Commissioner to that of the Director of Land Records.

* *Gur:* unrefined conglomerate sugar.

TRADE WITH TRANS-FRONTIER COUNTRIES.

127. The development of the trade with Afghánistán due to the liberal policy of the Amír has been maintained, imports having increased by Rs. 7,827 to nearly Rs. 46,000 and exports by Rs. 35,032 to nearly Rs. 88,000. Afghanistan.

128. The imports from Chinese-Tibet in 1905-06 were $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs and the exports half a lakh. The trade continues to decrease. This is no doubt largely due to the interruption of communications caused by the earthquake in Kángra, but it also appears that the Kulu route is being ousted by that through Kashmír and that through Simla by the Dera Dún road. The imports, both of borax and raw wool, show a decline. The effects of the bonus recently allowed on the exports of tea to Tibet will not be visible till next year. Chinese-Tibet.

129. Imports from Ladákh were a little over five and three quarter lakhs in value, and exports thither something over a lakh. Both imports and exports show a decline of nearly 50 per cent., the chief factors being *charas* among imports, which decreased by over five lakhs in value and 1,619 maunds in weight, and among exports European cotton piece-goods, which decreased by a lakh and a half. The decrease in *charas* is due to the increased duty, and raw silk (whose import increased threefold) seems taking its place as a medium of exchange. The British trade in piece-goods is being rapidly killed by Russian competition and the extension of Russian railways, and it appears that so far from the Russo-Japanese war reducing the supply of Russian goods in Káshgar, it has had the opposite result of diverting to Central Asia the goods debarred from exportation to the Far East. Ladakh.

130. The great bulk of trans-frontier trade is with Kashmír, which in 1905-06 sent 126 lakhs of imports and received 89 lakhs of exports. Imports have increased by nearly 28 lakhs, notably raw silk, which has risen by nearly eight and a third lakhs, doubtless owing to its rising importance as a medium of exchange. Imports of *charas* have risen by nine and a half lakhs in value and 857 maunds in weight, a result which must be considered together with the decrease of 5 lakhs and 1,619 maunds in Ladákh. The net result for the province is that while the value of *charas* imported has risen by nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, the weight has decreased by 768 maunds. The trade has obviously been disorganised by the increased duty, and there has been a considerable diversion of route. Imports of timber, hides and wheat have increased considerably: in the case of timber imports had been kept down in 1904-05 by exceptional difficulties in floating; the increase of wheat is due to the high prices ruling in the Punjab. Exports to Kashmír have increased in value by fourteen and a half lakhs. Both European and Indian piece-goods and European twist and yarn have increased, while salt and husked rice have decreased. The decrease in the value of salt (two lakhs) might be explained by the reduction of duty, but that the weight has also decreased by 47,000 maunds. Kashmir.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

131. The number of companies having capital divided into shares rose during the year from 59 to 68, 11 new ventures having been launched and 2 having disappeared. Most of the new companies combine in the same venture objects of the most miscellaneous character, and for the most part may be said to be started with the view of making money in any way that may turn up: one company, besides the business of importing and exporting agents and contractors, proposes to work ginning, spinning and weaving mills and foundries and to acquire mines and quarries. In one case the registration of the memorandum of association was refused on account of the vagueness of the statement of objects. Of the two companies liquidated, one is an iron-rolling mill which never started business and the other a cotton mill. Besides these, ten others are in course of liquidation. Two companies have been registered under section 26 of Act VI of 1882,—one the Council of the Church Missionary Society in a new form and the other a company of Delhi cloth merchants and hardware dealers who have associated in order to protect themselves from railway over-charges and to expedite the clearing of goods. Number of companies and new companies registered.

Capital.

132. The nominal capital has risen from 188 to nearly 203 lakhs, and the paid-up capital from nearly 102 to 106 lakhs of rupees. The Amritsar Bank raised its nominal capital by 3 lakhs, and in all the six native banks in existence there was a considerable increase in the paid-up capital. The nominal capital of the Himalaya Glass Works, the Ganesh Flour Mills and the Amritsar Flour Mills was raised, and large increases are shown in the paid-up capital of the Amritsar Cotton Mills and the Punjab Cotton Press Company. It appears that in most native companies the defaulters are numerous. Cotton mills and cotton presses are the most popular form of investment and account for $36\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs or 34 per cent. of the paid-up capital: banking and insurance take $24\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs and the one brewery 18 lakhs. The least satisfactorily invested money is the $9\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in trading companies which class includes most of the bogus and fraudulent associations. It is fortunate that only this amount has been taken up out of the $45\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of nominal capital offered by these associations. The one Punjab insurance company, the Bhárat, is doing a good deal of business and has policies amounting to over 26 lakhs in force. Its financial position has been the subject of some criticisms in the annual report.

Prosecutions.

133. The Managing Director and other officials of the Suburban Mills Company of Delhi were prosecuted for forgery of accounts and criminal breach of trust in using the funds for a trip by the Manager to England. Another prosecution for failure to submit returns failed on technical grounds.

34. Public Works.

Expenditure.

134. The total outlay on public works in the Roads and Buildings Branch for the year 1905-06 was $67\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, of which expenditure $8\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs were Imperial, $51\frac{1}{2}$ Provincial for civil works and $7\frac{1}{4}$ met from local funds.

Imperial works.

135. A little under a lakh and a half was spent on military works, chiefly in connection with the operations of the Army Remount Department. Nearly 4 lakhs were spent on original Imperial civil works, including temporary post and telegraph offices to replace those destroyed in the Kángra earthquake, and a post and telegraph office at Campbellpur. The new Imperial Civil Secretariat at Simla was completed during the year.

Provincial civil works:—Buildings.

136. The expenditure on provincial civil works included $25\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs for original works and 15 for repairs. Buildings took up $15\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs for original works and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs for repairs. New district court buildings were erected at Miánwáli, Karnál and Shahpur, a new Sessions House at Karnál, and Munsif's Courts at Una and Garhshankar in the Hoshiárpur district. A new combined tahsíl and thána was built at Hissar, and temporary tahsíls were built in the Kángra district to replace the buildings destroyed in the earthquake. A court-house was in progress at Sakesar for the Attock district officials, and the district court-treasury and tahsíl at Campbellpur was completed. A new Public Works Secretariat office was begun at Lahore. The Miánwáli district jail was completed, but for the leper ward. Seven police stations were built. Residences for officials were built at Campbellpur, Rohtak and Gurgaon. Owing to the difficulty and expense of obtaining house accommodation at Lahore, the European clerks employed in the Secretariat offices memorialized His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor asking for help from Government. A site has been selected, and a number of detached cottages have been built as an experiment.

Communications.

137. The provincial expenditure on communications was 5 lakhs for original works and nearly 11 for repairs. The expenditure on new roads has increased steadily in the last four years, and it is intended to work up to a programme which will add 75 miles of road yearly at the cost of 6 lakhs. In the Chenab colony all roads in hand were completed, with the exception of that from Gojra to Jhang branch, and the feeder roads decided on for the Jhelum colony were in progress. Near Simla, the road from Sanjauli to Mashobra bazár was widened

to 18 feet so as to allow of carriage traffic, and the small, unlined and dangerous Sanjauli tunnel was replaced by a masonry tunnel of the width of the road.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

138. The provincial expenditure on miscellaneous public improvements was $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, of which $4\frac{2}{3}$ was on original works. Two new roads and tunnels were made at Simla in connection with the scheme for keeping cooly and mule traffic off the Mall, and the Mall at Lahore was greatly improved by being metalled from curb to curb and being flanked by a tan riding road, cinder footpaths and grass borders. Electric light was installed along the Mall and in the principal public buildings adjoining it.

The Kangra earthquake.

139. As has been related in another place, enormous damage was done by the earthquake in Kángra both to buildings and communications. The recorded book value of the buildings destroyed in the Kángra district was $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and several bridges were destroyed, including the bridge over the Boner in Kángra, which had a brick arch of 140 feet span, and the Duff Dunbar suspension bridge over the Beas at Bhuntar in the Kulu Valley. Urgent work was undertaken first by a cooly corps, and then by the 34th Sikh Pioneers and Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, Sappers and Miners. The total expenditure in the Public Works Department directly due to the earthquake is estimated at little short of 10 lakhs. The Executive Engineer of Kángra, Mr. Farley, was among the victims of the earthquake.

Damage by flood and fire.

140. At Dera Gházi Khan considerable erosion took place in the bay above the old stone embankment which had silted up so satisfactorily after 1903. A strip about two miles long and averaging half a mile in width was cut away during the year, with the effect of re-opening the large bay above the old stone embankment. The centre line of the main stream now makes a big sweep through the bay before returning to its old course at a point above a mile to the north and two miles to the east of the nose of the stone embankment. This event has undoubtedly made the outlook for the town less favourable than it was before, but the flood season of 1906 has not done the damage which was feared. At Khusháb on the Jhelum the bridge-of-boats was broken by a very heavy flood in September 1905, and the Kashmir road between Murree and Kohála was completely wrecked by landslips in the winter rains. Bishop Cotton School at Simla was destroyed by fire in May 1905 and is being rebuilt by Government.

Famine relief works.

141. Test works were started in January 1906 in the Gurgaon, Hissar and Rohtak districts, but only in the latter was distress sufficiently acute to make the people come to the works. By March it was necessary to start relief works, and the digging of three large tanks was started. There were under 8,000 people on the works at the close of the year under report. The improvement of the famine relief programme of the Delhi, Ferozepore and Ambála districts was continued, and a large number of surveyors were engaged to work up new projects.

RAILWAYS AND TRAMWAYS.

Railway extensions in the Punjab.

142. The doubling of the line between Lahore and Amritsar was completed in 1905. This section carries an important local traffic between these two cities as well as heavy through traffic, both stations being junctions, and the doubling of the line has afforded a much desired relief. On the Ludhiána extension the line from Ludhiána to Ferozepore cantonment, a length of 77 miles, was opened on the 10th June 1905, and the extension was completed on the 10th February 1906 by the opening of the remaining distance of 77 miles from Ferozepore city to McLeodganj, thus providing a fresh route to Karáchi for the traffic of the Central Punjab. The Jech Doab Railway from Malakwál to Shorkot Road was opened in May 1906, giving a direct outlet to Karáchi for the grain traffic of the Lower Jhelum colony. Work was also done on the Sángla-Shahdára line. A line, 27 miles long, has been begun and partly opened from Amritsar to Patti. The construction of the Jullundur-Kapúrthala-Sultánpur Railway has not been begun, nor the gauge settled. The

permanent-way, curves, gradients and bridges on the Kálka-Simla line were improved during 1905, and a joint water-supply scheme was completed for supplying the Kálka-Simla and East Indian Railways and the town of Kálka. The remodelling and interlocking of Bhatinda stationyard, and the construction of one wing of the central offices at Lahore were also completed. Surveys were completed from Chúharkána to Shorkot Road, Lodhrán to Khanewál and Patiála to Jakhal, and a reconnaissance survey from Jhang *viâ* Chiniot to Sángla.

Traffic.

143. Passenger traffic continues to develop year by year. On the North-Western Railway over 30 million passengers were carried, an increase of nearly half a million, and the passenger receipts were nearly 20 lakhs in excess of those in 1904, representing a fifth of the total increase in India: measures have been and are being taken to improve the arrangements for the convenience of 3rd class passengers, a matter to which the Railway Board drew the attention of all railway administrations in March 1905. 7,237,000 tons of goods were lifted during the year, an increase of 806,000 tons in the total, but there was a considerable decrease of no less than 340,000 tons in the important wheat traffic, and on the whole the working of the line was not so profitable as in 1904, the gross earnings decreasing by Rs. 16,50,000 and the net earnings by Rs. 26,10,000.

The rates for coal on the North-Western Railway were reduced locally in accordance with the new conditions and minimum rates prescribed by the Railway Board in August 1905, and the charges for coaching and goods traffic over the Ludhiána-Dhúri-Jakhál Railway were reduced to the level of those in force over other sections of the system.

The only railways in the Punjab which do not form a part of the North-Western Railway system are the Delhi-Umballa-Kálka Railway, which is part of the East Indian system, and the Kálka-Simla Railway. On the former the earnings rose from $9\frac{2}{3}$ to nearly $10\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, giving 6·7 per cent. on the capital outlay, the highest in the history of the line. The Kálka-Simla Railway carried 97,000 passengers as compared with 84 in 1904 and 27,000 tons of goods as against 25,000. While receipts went up, expenses fell, and the net earnings were Rs. 4,01,000 as against Rs. 2,08,000, which, however, still only represented a little over $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on the capital outlay. The line was taken over by Government in 1906.

There were during 1906 collisions at Kot Sultán and Lahore stations, each resulting in the injury of 17 persons. The only serious damages by flood during the year were caused by an exceptional rise of the Chenab which interrupted traffic between Multán and Sher Shah for 96 hours.

Tramways and provincial railways.

144. A scheme for the construction of electric tramways in combination with electric lighting in Delhi by a private firm is in progress, and materials for the work are at the time of writing on the sea. A similar scheme is under consideration at Amritsar. In Lahore a license of the same description was given in 1905, but hitherto no progress has been made. A proposal by the Lyallpur district board to lay down Ewing's patent mono-rail from Golra to Samundri for the transport of agricultural produce was negatived as unsuitable to the conditions of the district. There are no railways under provincial control.

35. Irrigation.

Canal construction.

145. The site of the weir of the Upper Chenab canal has been finally fixed, and progress made with fixing the alignment and bed grading of the main line and branches, and with taking up the necessary land, while excavation on the main line has been vigorously pushed on. The total outlay during the year was 20·6 lakhs. On the Upper Jhelum project progress has been made with surveying, alignment, and other preliminary operations and a good deal of excavation was carried out. $13\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs were spent during the year. On the Bári Doáb canal the remodelling of distributaries and outlets is receiving attention, and a plan is under preparation for remodelling the main line and branches. Schemes are in progress on the Lower Chenab canal for the extension of the Burala

branch and Khiki distributary, and for the construction of a forest distributary on the Lower Gugera branch; also for extending the Sultánpakhra distributary on the Bhawána branch. On the Upper Sutlej canals extensions on the Dhapai and Malkha Hans branches effected during the year commanded an area of about 13,000 acres of Crown waste which will shortly be colonised. On the Indus canals the work was finished on the main line of the Manka canal project and started on the distributaries. A considerable amount of masonry work was done in connection with the Talai project.

General statistics.

146. The area irrigated by the canals of the province in 1905-06 was nearly 6,914,500 acres, an increase of 789,700 acres on the average of the three preceding years. The eight major works—the Western Jumna, Bari Doab, Sirhind, Lower Chenab, Lower Jhelum, Upper Sutlej, Sidhnai and Indus—account for all but 751,000 acres of this. The direct receipts were $174\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs, an increase of two lakhs on the average of the three preceding years, in addition to which $27\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs were credited to canals on account of enhanced land revenue, &c. The expenditure was 121 lakhs, of which $45\frac{2}{3}$ were capital expenditure and $75\frac{1}{3}$ working expenses; the average expenditure of the three preceding years was only $94\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs, the increase being accounted for chiefly under capital expenditure due to the beginning of work on the Upper Jhelum and Chenab canals.

Western Jumna canal.

147. On the Western Jumna canal the season opened well, and so abundant was the rain in July that the canal was closed for ten days. But the ultimate diversion of the monsoon current along the line Hissar-Narwána-Patiála left Delhi, Rohtak and Karnál very dry, and during the cold weather there was serious scarcity in Rohtak. A continuous supply was afforded, as far as possible, from the canal, and the area irrigated, nearly 856,500 acres, is the highest on record, and about 50,000 acres more than the maximum proposed for the canal. The area of sugarcane was greatly contracted by the destruction of seed cane, caused by the frosts in the beginning of 1904; and a large area of cotton was destroyed by boll-worm, and remissions were made of nearly Rs. 70,000, chiefly on this account. To this cause is due the fall of the net income from $17\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs (10 per cent. on capital outlay) to $16\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs ($9\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.).

Sirhind canal.

148. The monsoon rainfall over the tract irrigated by the Sirhind canal was generally poor, but caused no loss of crops. Cotton, however, suffered very severely from boll-worm, and remissions were given on over 12,000 acres on this account alone. There was excellent rainfall for the spring harvest, and large areas were matured without canal water which in ordinary years would have swelled the irrigation returns. 1,184,700 acres were matured, an increase of 80,000 over the average of the preceding three years, which is made up of an increase of 92,000 on the Native States branches and a decrease of 12,000 on the British branches. The marked improvement in the area irrigated on Native States branches is the feature of the year and points to improved control over the distribution of supply. The profit earned on British branches was $17\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, 7 per cent. on the capital invested, an increase on last year of nearly three-quarters of a lakh. That on Native States branches was by collections $14\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs, or 5·9 per cent. on the capital outlay, an increase of $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. By assessments the increase was twice as great.

Bari Doab canal.

149. Over the Bari Doab canal the monsoon rains nearly failed, but the situation was saved by the heavy rainfall early in September, which gave abundant moisture for the spring sowings. Over 1,129,600 acres were irrigated, the highest area on record (as is the area irrigated in each crop), and an increase of 200,800 on the average of the three preceding years. This is due to a favourable state of the river during the spring crop, and to the development of irrigation on new systems of the canal. The cotton crop was almost a total failure from boll-worm and nearly 5 lakhs of water-rate had to be remitted on this account alone, with the result that the net income fell from 24 lakhs to $22\frac{1}{3}$ representing 11·3 per cent. on the capital outlay. Great damage was done to the river works by floods.

Lower Chenab canal.

150. On the Lower Chenab canal the most noticeable feature of the year was the entire failure from boll-worm of the cotton crop, of which as a rule more than 300,000 acres are matured. The total area of matured crops irrigated was

1,804,600 acres, a decrease of over 114,500 on the average of the three previous years, but there were also 346,200 acres irrigated which failed to mature, chiefly on account of boll-worm. The net revenue was 58⅔ lakhs, 20·8 per cent. on the capital invested, a decrease of 10 lakhs on the previous year. The accumulated net profits now exceed the capital invested by 9·4 lakhs.

Lower Jhelum canal.

151. On the Lower Jhelum canal great destruction was caused by boll-worm which alone was responsible for the failure of over 80,000 acres, and for over 3 lakhs of water-rate remitted. The result is that the matured area irrigated was only 445,600 acres, and the net income 1⅔ lakhs, giving a return of 1 per cent. on the capital outlay. But for the boll-worm this would have been 3 per cent.

Upper Sutlej inundation canals.

152. The period of flow of the four canals composing the Upper Sutlej system (the Katora, Khánwah, and Upper and Lower Sohág) varied from 156 to 171 days, in each case an improvement on the previous year. The cotton crop was a total failure from boll-worm, which was chiefly responsible for remissions of over Rs. 2¼ lakhs. Nevertheless owing to very favourable supplies in the river and to improvement in the management of the canal the matured irrigated area was nearly 371,000 acres, an increase of Rs. 1,22,500. The net profit was Rs. 84,700, representing nearly 4·9 per cent. on the capital outlay, as compared with Rs. 1,78,500 last year. 54,500 acres of Crown waste were irrigated, an increase of 22,000.

Sidhnai canal.

153. The Sidhnai and its subsidiary canals were running for 173 days as against an average of 140 in the preceding triennium. Owing to the failure of the cotton crop the net profit (Rs. 1,82,200 or nearly 14 per cent.) was less than half that of last year, but the matured area irrigated, 1,63,300 acres, exceeded the averages of the preceding three years by 24,700.

Indus inundation canals.

154. The area irrigated on the Indus inundation canals was 207,100 acres, an increase of 10,700 on the average of the preceding three years. The net profit was over a lakh, nearly 5·8 per cent. on the capital outlay, a decrease of nearly of Rs. 43,000.

Minor Irrigation works.

155. On the *Lower Sutlej inundation canals*, in spite of the head of one important canal silting up, the canals generally ran well, and the irrigated matured area would have been the largest on record but for the damage done by boll-worm. As it is, the area matured, 210,100 acres, is the second largest on record, and exceeds the average of the three preceding years by 28,100. The *Chenab inundation canals* show a profit of Rs. 32,000, less by nearly Rs. 12,000 than last year owing to the failure of the cotton. But the irrigated area, 138,600 acres, still exceeds the average of the past triennium by 20,900. The *Shahpur* Imperial and provincial canals irrigated 29,700 and 24,900 matured acres respectively: both figures are slightly less than the average of the three former years on account of the failure of the cotton crop. The Imperial canals earned 8 per cent. There was a good year on the *Muzaffargarh inundation canals* which matured 296,200 acres, an increase of over 16,000 on the previous three years. Good progress continues to be made in the amalgamation of outlets and in abandoning superfluous channels. The *Ghaggar inundation canals* matured 16,600 acres, a decrease of nearly 8,000 on the average of the last three years, and the year's operations resulted in a loss of Rs. 25,600. The *Rangoi canal* matured 2,500 acres. There was a very good flow in the *Ravi* (*provincial*) *inundation canals*, and the area irrigated, 32,300 acres, was more than 2½ times the average of the preceding triennium. But the year's operations resulted in a financial loss of nearly Rs. 9,000. The *Jalálpur canal* has been finally abandoned.

CHAPTER V.
REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[Detailed information on the subject dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

(*a*)—DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1905.

Canal Revenue.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the year 1905-06.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab, for the year 1905-06.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1905-06.

Stamps.—Note on the Stamp Statements of the Punjab for the year 1905-06.

Income Tax.—Punjab Income Tax Report for 1905-06.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1905-06.

Local Funds.—Review of the Accounts and Administration of District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1905-06.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1905-06.

(*b*)—FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, THIRTEENTH ISSUE.

Stamps.—Tables VIII 22 to 24.

(*c*)—FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, FOURTEENTH ISSUE.

Salt.—Tables III 11 and 12.

Excise.—Table V 12.

Income Tax.— Tables VIII 2, 3, 8 and 9.]

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

General.

156. In the following statements of income and expenditure for the year ending March 31st, 1906, the income and expenditure of the Railways, Post Office, and Telegraph Departments and Military expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals are omitted.

Revenue.

157. The revenue raised in the Province during 1905-06 is made up as follows, last year's figures being quoted for comparison :—

SOURCES OF REVENUE.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Land Revenue ...	2,63·92	2,41·53
Irrigation (excluding land revenue due to canals)	1,82·61	1,74·23
Salt ...	52·91	47·02
Local Rates ...	47·35	42·90
Stamps ...	40·36	39·26
Excise and Opium	32·01	35·65
Income Tax ...	12·20	12·38
Forests ...	18·74	17·82
Police ...	7·43	6·94
Civil Works ...	7·90	6·64
Interest ...	3·23	3·50
Law and Justice	3·34	3·44
Tribute ...	4·10	3·02
Registration ...	2·32	2·59
Jails ...	1·80	1·86
Education ...	2·01	3·57
All other items ...	9·56	11·02
TOTAL RECEIPTS ...	6,91·79	6,53·37

Expenditure.

158. The expenditure, excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, Municipal expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals, amounted to 4,05·80 lakhs in 1905-06. The detailed items, with corresponding figures for the previous year, are given below:—

Departments.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Irrigation ...	72·96	76·42
Public Works ...	61·56	70·18
Land Revenue ...	43·67	45·64
Police ...	37·82	43·14
Law and Justice ...	34·27	36·63
Medical ...	14·67	15·64
Education ...	19·50	26·44
General Administration ...	13·76	15·04
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions ...	14·23	14·78
Jails ...	9·50	10·38
Forests ...	10·12	12·63
Political ...	7·00	6·61
Stationery and Printing ...	5·07	5·32
Scientific and Other Minor Departments ...	4·40	5·59
Salt ...	3·89	3·85
All other items ...	21·47	17·51
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	3,73·89	4,05·80

Abstract of income and expenditure.

159. The following is an abstract of the gross income and expenditure for 1905-06 as recorded in the books of the Accountant-General, Punjab:—

	Receipts.				Expenditure.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue and expenditure.	1,88,83,767	2,67,45,104	46,55,945	5,02,84,816	23,71,063	2,93,68,075	42,61,480	3,60,00,618
Contributions ...	...	5,69,996	80,251	6,50,247	...	80,251	5,69,996	6,50,247
Debt and remittance heads	...	...	...	30,02,15,187	...	...	...	31,48,69,129
Total ...	1,88,83,767	2,73,15,100	47,36,196	35,11,50,250	23,71,063	2,94,48,326	48,31,476	35,15,19,994
Opening balance	...	...	...	94,84,922	Closing	balance	...	91,15,178
GRAND TOTAL	...	...	...	36,06,35,172	...	...	...	36,06,35,172

37. Land Revenue.

Collections of land revenue.

160. The collections of land revenue for 1905-06 are less by 22⅓ lakhs than as those for 1904-05 which are dicussed in Chapter II above. No details for 1905-06 are available at the time of writing.

38. Irrigation.

Capital expenditure and profits.

161. The capital invested up to March 31st, 1906, in works classed as productive was 1,101½ lakhs of which nearly 13⅔ lakhs were spent during the year, including 2 lakhs on the Lower Chenab and nearly 7 on the Lower Jhelum. The net income from these works was nearly 121 lakhs, giving nearly 11 per cent. on the capital outlay, and the net profit after paying interest was over 79 lakhs as compared with 92½ lakhs in the previous year. In addition 36 lakhs had by the end of the year been spent on the Upper Chenab and Upper Jhelum Canals, all but half a lakh within the year. No fresh capital outlay was incurred during the year on Imperial Minor Works not classed as productive, for most of which capital accounts are not kept. The excess of income over working expenses on these canals was Rs. 4,30,000, a decrease of Rs. 75,750. The profit on the two Provincial systems, the Shahpur and Rávi Canals, was only

Rs. 5,000, a fifth of what it was in the previous year. The working of the various canals has been discussed in Chapter IV where the effect of the failure of the cotton crop on the financial results of the year has been dealt with.

39. Opium and Excise Revenue.

162. The increase of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs shown in last year's report has been more than maintained in 1905-06, in which year an even larger rise of 4 lakhs is reported, the gross receipts having risen from Rs. 31,50,000 to Rs. 35,60,000. In this increase spirits form the principal factor, and have yielded nearly 3 lakhs more than last year. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of this came under still-head duty, and are attributed to the rise in consumption due to the supply of liquor at low fixed prices in the four central Sikh districts of Ludhiána, Amritsar, Ferozepore and Jullundur. This experiment, which was inaugurated in April 1905, consists in disposing of the vend licenses at low fixed fees instead of by auction, and requiring the vendors to sell country spirit 25 per cent. below proof at a cheap price, the object being to reduce illicit distillation. The result has been to increase the licit consumption in these districts from 99,000 to 197,000 gallons, but it is believed that the greater part of this increase may safely be put down to the substitution of licit for illicit supplies. Apart from these districts there has been a slight decrease in the consumption of country spirit. The duty on coloured rum and imitation whiskies, brandies and gins was raised from Rs. 4 to Rs. 6 per gallon, with effect from April 1st, 1906, as a subsidiary result of the raising of the customs duty on imported spirits from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7, which came into effect in the February of the same year. The effects of the former measure were felt some months before it occurred, as it induced distillers to turn out large quantities of coloured rum in anticipation of the change. The receipts from opium rose from Rs. 6,04,300 to Rs. 6,47,000. The discussion of the proposal to adopt the system of Government storage of opium appears to have alarmed opium-growers, and in combination with an unfavourable season, to have caused a considerable contraction of the opium crop in the Punjab, resulting in increased imports of Malwa and Excise opium, swelling the receipts by Rs. 34,000. There was moreover an increase of Rs. 23,000 in the retail vend fees. The question of illicit smuggling from the Phulkián States still continues to engage the attention of Government.

The receipts from hemp drugs have risen by Rs. 70,000 owing to the enhancement of the import duty on *charas* from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6, this being the first year in which it has come into effective operation. On the other hand, this enhancement coupled with the closing of a large number of shops for the vend of charas has caused both consumption and imports of the drug to decline in a marked manner. Attention has been drawn to the alarming spread of the cocaine habit in the Province, and the necessary steps are being taken by the Local Government to suppress the traffic in the drug. The Darbárs of the Phulkián States have intimated their willingness to co-operate in the movement.

40. Salt Revenue.

163. The duty on salt was reduced on March 22nd, 1905, from Rs. 2 to Rs. 1-8-0 a maund. The issue price of Khewra salt was raised from nine pies to one anna a maund from 1st April 1905, and at the same time the levy of a clearance charge of six pies a maund, which was compulsorily imposed on all traders taking delivery of their salt at the Khewra depôt, was stopped and the through traffic charge of six pies a maund was reduced to three pies. These changes did not alter the aggregate cost of through traffic salt, but the cost of salt delivered locally for removal by road has been lowered by $1\frac{1}{2}$ pies a maund, and any purchaser may at his option save $1\frac{1}{2}$ pies more in clearance charges by doing the work connected with the clearance himself. Consumers appear to have received the full benefit of the reduction of duty, and retail prices at the chief towns which in 1904-05 varied from Rs. 2-9-3 to Rs. 2-10-8 per maund, in 1905-06 ranged from Rs. 2-1-0 to Rs. 2-3-7. Duty and prices.

Sales of salt.

164. Sales were very dull during the first five months of the year on account of a rumour that the salt duty was to be further reduced or totally abolished in connection with the Prince of Wales' visit, but for the rest of the year were brisk. 2,884,000 maunds were sold in the Kálábágh and cis-Indus division, an increase of 395,000 maunds; 985,000 from the Mandi mines, a decrease of 14,600; and 93,000 maunds of Sultánpur salt, an increase of nearly 14,900 maunds.

41. Stamp Revenue.

165. The net receipts from stamps in 1905-06 were Rs. 36,78,000, nearly two lakhs below those of 1904-05 and more than a lakh below the average of the triennium 1902-05. The sale of court-fee stamps brought in 2½ lakhs less than in the preceding year: this may perhaps be explained by the recent extension of the limitation for money suits, but this does not account for the fact that the decrease is confined to the first nine months of the year. Probably plague and scarcity deterred money-lenders from suing until the favourable winter rains brought the prospect of plenty. There is an increase under impressed stamps, half of which comes in Delhi, Lahore and Amritsar and is probably due to commercial prosperity; and the other half falls in the quarter October to December and may be attributed to borrowing caused by the poor autumn harvest. Brisk trade at Delhi and Amritsar caused a rise in negotiable instruments known as *hundis*. The special anna receipt stamp was abolished during the year.

42. Assessed Taxes.

General.

166. A triennial report was issued on this subject last year. The total net collections show an increase from Rs. 12,14,000 to Rs. 12,32,000 with a slight decrease in the number of assessees. 34 per cent. of the net collections were from incomes under Rs. 2,000. Assessees under Rs. 1,250 show a progressive increase since the passing of Act XI of 1903.

43. Forest Revenue.

167. [Forest Revenue and Expenditure have already been noticed in Chapter IV.]

44. Provincial Revenues.

168. The income and expenditure under the Provincial section of accounts during the past year have been as follows:—

Year.	Opening balance.	Income.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1903-04	25,25,120	2,30,60,668	2,23,85,788	32,00,000
1904-05	32,00,000	2,69,86,803	2,21,92,416	79,94,387
1905-06	79,94,387	2,73,15,100	2,94,48,326	58,61,161

The figures for 1905-06 are not final, but are liable to correction in next year's Administration Report. The balance of 32 lakhs at the end of 1903-04 included 20 lakhs for the extension and improvement of Simla and 2 lakhs for works of public utility. Of these grants Rs. 2,89,832 and Rs. 1,47,949 respectively were expended up to the end of the year 1905-06. The balance of 80 lakhs round at the end of 1904-05 included a special Imperial grant of 50 lakhs to give a fair start to the provincial finances under the new *quasi*-permanent settlement which came into force from the 1st April 1905. The revenue classed as provincial consists of a share of the receipts of the general revenues, the principal heads of which, with the exception of Provincial Rates, have been discussed

above. Provincial Rates on land include the local rate levied under the District Boards Act, 1883, which is noticed in the following section, and the Patwari Cess, the expenditure of which is shown under Land Revenue (Local). Under the new Provincial Settlement the provincial share of Land Revenue and Stamp income has been reduced from two-fifths to three-eighths and from three-fourths to half respectively, and that of Excise and Registration increased from one-fourth to half and from half to the whole respectively. Provincial has also received for the first time three-eighths of the income from Imperial Canals and made responsible for the same proportion of the working expenses and interest on debt, subject to a guaranteed net income of 28 lakhs per annum.

45. Local Funds.

169. The work of peripatetic audit of local fund accounts was begun in July 1904, but it has not yet been found possible to complete the inspection of the whole of the 434 local bodies in the Punjab and Frontier Province. The audit has, however, already produced useful results, and necessary action has been taken in each case of irregularity reported. The most important cases were in Ambála and Hoshiárpur; in both instances the irregularities were connected with outlay on public works, an item of expenditure which affords special facilities for fraud. It is proposed to lay before Government a simple code of accounts with a view to its adoption by all district boards. **Audit.**

170. The closing balances on 31st March 1906 amounted to 13 lakhs, an increase of over a quarter of a lakh on those of the preceding year. No district board overdrew its balance, and only two failed to maintain the prescribed minimum balance of a tenth of the year's receipts. **Balances.**

171. Excluding debt transactions, the total income of the year fell by one and three quarter lakhs to Rs. 31,84,000. The chief decrease is one of Rs 2,45,000 under Provincial Rates, due in Kángra to remissions of land revenue on account of the earthquake, and in other districts to suspensions. **Income.**

172. Expenditure rose by Rs. 51,000 to Rs. 32,32,000. There is an increase of a lakh under Education, due mainly to the opening of new primary schools, towards which an annual assignment of 3 lakhs is made by the Government of India. The expenditure under the head Scientific and other Minor Departments went up by Rs. 43,000, chiefly on account of increased interest in cattle-breeding and in the maintenance of gardens; that under Civil Works rose by Rs. 65,000. The only important decrease was under the head Contributions (Rs. 2,18,000), which is accounted for principally by the special grants for primary education made from provincial revenues and by a decrease in local rate due to suspensions of land revenue. **Expenditure.**

173. The transactions under the head of Contributions show an increase of Rs. 86,000 on the receipt side and (as has been said) a decrease of Rs. 2,18,000 in expenditure, but are less than they might have been owing to the delay in making over the special contribution of 6½ lakhs assigned annually by the Government of India in aid of district boards. The grant has been made in the current year, and further relief has been given by the stoppage from the 1st April 1906 of the postal charges formerly paid to provincial revenues. **Contributions.**

174. Of the total expenditure of Rs. 10,96,000 on Civil Works, Communications absorbed just under half. Only Rs. 1,65,000 were spent in original building works, and no works of any great importance were constructed: an irrigation channel in Ferozepore costing Rs. 8,000 and a district board office at Muzaffargarh costing Rs. 6,000 were the most important. **Civil works.**

46 Municipal Funds.

175. The introduction of the Municipal Account Code and the peripatetic audit of municipal accounts have been dealt with in section 25. The accounts of notified areas are now separately tabulated from those of municipalities, a fact which accounts generally for variations between figures of this and the preceding year. **General.**

Balances.

176. The balances of the municipalties and notified areas of the Province amounted at the close of the year to Rs. 15,51,000 in cash and Rs. 3,71,000 in investments. The balances of a few municipalities and notified areas fell below the prescribed minimum. The receipts and expenditure under the head "extraordinary and debts" amounted to Rs. 4,55,000 and Rs. 3,10,000 respectively, the items which call for notice being confined to loans. The balance of loans outstanding on 31st March 1906 was Rs 52,78,000, an increase of Rs. 1,26,000 representing the difference between the advances taken up against already sanctioned loans, and the amount repaid on account of loans advanced in previous years. The financial position of all indebted municipalities is sound, the closing balance having in every case been above the prescribed minimum.

Income.

177. The total income, exclusive of debt transactions, was Rs. 49,48,000, a decrease of Rs. 2,15,000. The gross proceeds of taxation fell by Rs 1,34,000 to Rs. 35,40,000, but in some towns such as Delhi and Lahore the closer supervision entailed by the new system of accounts has already had its effect in raising the proceeds of the tax. The realizations under Special Acts (mainly receipts from cattle pounds, hackney carriage licenses and chaukídári tax) amounted to Rs. 39,000 a nominal decrease. Municipal property and powers apart from taxation yielded Rs. 8,36,000, an increase of Rs. 1,30,000. This increase came partly from the rent of lands, houses etc., which increased mainly owing to more careful supervision in the collection of rent from permanent squatters in Delhi. There was also a rise in the sale-proceeds of land and its produce. There were, on the other hand, decreases under conservancy receipts and fees and revenue from schools, in the latter case due to the provincialization of one school at the head-quarters of each district which took place on January 1, 1905. The same cause was chiefly responsible for the decrease in the income from grants and contributions from Rs. 2,74,000 to Rs. 2,27,000. There was a fall in miscellaneous income from Rs. 4,67,000 to Rs. 3,04,000, due mainly to recasting of the heads of account in the new Code.

Expenditure.

178. The total expenditure of the municipalities of the Province, excluding debt transactions, fell by Rs. 55,000 to Rs. 51,84,000. That under the head of general administration charges, etc., amounted to Rs. 6,79,000 as compared with Rs. 5,66,000 (exclusive of refunds of octroi) in the previous year. This increase of Rs. 1,13,000 is due to the expenditure entailed by the introduction of the Municipal Account Code, including general increases in the strength and pay of establishments, and the purchase of weighing machines and new account books and forms. The expenditure on public safety was Rs. 7,30,000, much the same as last year. That on Public Health and Convenience amounted to Rs. 28,66,000, an increase of Rs. 1,91,000 due mainly to large outlay on drainage works at Multan, and on buildings and roads in Lahore, Delhi and a few other big towns. The result of the local audit shows that the expenditure on public works calls for greater control than it has hitherto received. The expenditure on public instruction was Rs. 4,34,000, a decrease of Rs. 1,86,000, due to the provincialization of the head-quarter schools. Expenditure under the head of contributions was Rs. 13,000 as against Rs. 89,000, a nominal variation due to stricter enforcement of rules of account. Miscellaneous expenditure rose to Rs. 4,62,000, an increase of Rs. 1,42,000 due largely to the expenditure incurred by the municipalities of Lahore, Amritsar and Delhi on the reception of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and of His Excellency the Viceroy.

Notified areas.

179. The total income of the notified areas of the Province was Rs. 1,24,717, of which Rs. 51,359 were from taxes. The total expenditure was Rs. 83,698.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

[Detailed information and statistics will be found in the following reports and publications :—

Census.—Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier, 1901, by H. A. Rose, I.C.S

Births and Deaths — Sanitation.— Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Proceedings of the Sanitary Board and the Report on Sanitary Works for the year 1905.
Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06, Eleventh Issue, Table XIII.

Emigration.— Census Report, *as above*, and Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Thirteenth Issue, Table XXXV.

Medical Relief.— Notes on the Annual Statements of the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the Punjab for the year ending 31st December 1905.
Judicial, &c., Statistics, *as above*, Tables XIV and XV.

Report of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the year 1905.

Vaccination.— Notes on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1905-06
Judicial, &c., Statistics, *as above*, Table XVI.]

47. Details of Census.

(See pages 153—160 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.)

48. Births and Deaths.

General.

180. In 1905, as in the preceding year, the mortality caused by plague is the chief feature of the returns. But for this, a healthy year might have been counted on, as the monsoon was much below the normal and autumnal fevers consequently very little prevalent, and there was no epidemic of small-pox or cholera. Plague, however, accounting alone for a death-rate of 16·65 *per mille*, brought the total death-rate up to 47·55. This, though slightly below that of 1904, is the highest in India, a bad eminence which the Punjab has now occupied for four years in succession. The death-rate from fever, 18·4 *per mille*, was about the same as in the preceding year. Cholera only appeared in a few places and in a mild form and took but little over 2,000 lives. The mortality from small-pox—about 4,700—shows a marked decline and is the lowest since 1901. Deaths from injuries increased largely owing to the earthquake in Kángra, to which about 18,000 recorded deaths are due. The distribution of the death-rate is given in the margin. It is worth notice that since 1901 over a million persons have died from plague and nearly two and a quarter millions from fevers. The birth-rate rose from 41·5 to 44·4, a result probably due to the immunity from autumnal sickness which the Punjab enjoyed in 1904.

Fever	18·4
Plague	16·7
Small-pox	·2
Cholera	·1
Dysentery and diarrhœa ...	·7
Respiratory diseases ...	3·1
Injuries	1·2
All other causes ...	7·2

Plague.

181. The death roll from plague was a little over 335,000 deaths in British districts, besides nearly 55,000 in Native States. The slight decrease from last year is probably due to the severe cold of the earlier months and the long dry summer followed by an early winter. Extremes both of heat and cold are unfavourable to plague, and 1905 was a year of extremes. The disease was epidemic throughout the Punjab except in the Himálayás and in the west and south-west. The western limit of epidemic plague would roughly coincide with a line drawn from Ráwalpindi to Montgomery, were it not that the canal colonies

in Lyallpur and Shahpur push the boundary in these districts further westward. The disease was worst in Rohtak and Gurgaon, where the death-rates from plague alone were over 50 and 39 *per mille* respectively and in nine other districts over 20 *per mille* died of plague. Nearly all the towns in the infected areas were attacked; of large cities Delhi, Jullundur, Lahore and Amritsar suffered, but none very severely. The people are generally still apathetic, but they are losing their old distrust of the motives of Government, and taught by experience are slowly learning to protect themselves. Panic, an active disseminator of disease, is less common. The general policy in dealing with plague is to regard each place in which plague has appeared as the scene of a probable centre of infection in the next plague season, and during each free season while plague is dormant to treat these places so as to prevent recrudescence. Destruction of rats is for this purpose the most important means employed. This measure has been received very favourably in most of the districts of the Punjab; six or seven hundred towns or villages accepted it during 1905, and by the conclusion of the plague season in the summer of 1906 over 3,000 towns and villages, most of which were considered endemic centres of plague, had been treated with satisfactory results. Disinfection was carried out either by heat or chemicals in over 151,000 rooms during the year. It is found that although this measure will not prevent the spread of plague from a house once the rats have been infected, it will usually prevent further plague in the house itself, probably by destroying vermin and putting rats to flight. Inoculation continued to be carried out, but was only popular where there was immediate danger; over 83,500 persons were inoculated during the year, of whom more than a quarter were in the Amritsar district. Evacuation is not generally popular, but a good many villages partially evacuate their houses of their own accord when the weather is favourable, often on the first signs of rats dying. The right of refusing access to persons coming from infected places has not been much used, but has occasionally been exercised successfully. Government surveillance of arrivals was only carried on in the hill stations of Simla, Murree and Dalhousie.

49. Emigration and Immigration.

(There is nothing to report under this heading.)

50. Medical Relief.

Institutions and daily attendance.

182. There are in the British districts of the Punjab 264 State, local fund or private aided institutions at which medical relief can be obtained by the general public, maintaining 3,398 beds. The daily average attendance of in-patients was 1,944, an increase of 20 on last year: although the average attendance throughout the year is less than the accommodation, the demand for accommodation at certain seasons is very largely in excess of what can be supplied. The attendance of men shows an increase of 7 and of women a highly gratifying increase of 30 daily; children on the other hand came less to the number of 17 a day. The average daily attendance of out-patients was a little over 21,000, 500 less than in 1904: this is probably due to the fact that the year was a healthy one but for plague, treatment for which is not generally sought. There are a number of excellent hospitals and dispensaries for the treatment of female patients in connection with Christian Missions. Among them St. Catherine's Hospital, Amritsar, the Charlotte Hospital and the Victoria Memorial Hospital, Ludhiána, St. Stephen's Hospital, Delhi, and the Philadelphia Mission Hospital, Ambála, are spoken of by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals in terms of the highest commendation.

Nature of work.

183. There appears during the year a decline in malarial fever, spleen and eye cases and a rise in diseases of the skin and respiratory system. Over 180,400 surgical operations were performed, a record number, of which only ·15 per cent. terminated fatally. As usual, a great deal of operative work was done at the Jullundur Civil Hospital, and the Mayo Hospital and the Gujránwála, Ráwalpindi, Delhi and Hoshiárpur Civil Hospitals also contributed largely to the total.

New hospitals.

184. The contagious hospital for Europeans at Simla was completed in 1905, and the new hospital at Amritsar was occupied during the year. The Victoria Memorial Hospital at Gujránwála was completed in 1905 and opened in the following year. New local fund dispensaries were opened at Pahárganj (a suburb of Delhi), Shahpur in Kángra, Bhalwal and Sargodha in Shahpur district, Bhawána in Jhang and Serai Sidhu in Multán.

Leper asylums.

185. There are leper asylums at Ambála, Bába Lakhan (Siálkot), Dakhni Sarái (Jullundur), Tarn Táran (Amritsar), Ráwalpindi and Sabáthu. Of these the first two are supported by local bodies, those at Dakhni Sarái, Tarn Táran and Ráwalpindi are managed by the Mission to Lepers in the East in consideration of provincial contributions: and that at Sabáthu (which alone has European inmates) is supported by voluntary contributions, assisted by a Government grant. (Excluding Ráwalpindi, 616 lepers were under treatment, of whom 4 were Europeans.)

Pasteur Institute.

186. Eight hundred and seventy-seven patients underwent anti-rabic treatment at Kasauli, of whom 307 were Europeans and 570 natives. There were seven failures among the natives and none among Europeans.

Lunatic asylum.

187. The triennial report on the Punjab Lunatic Asylum shows a record of steady progress during the last three years. The daily average of inmates was in 1905 477, a number considerably in excess of the accommodation ordinarily available, and proposals for increasing the accommodation have been sanctioned. The Sisters of the Order of Franciscans, who have for the last three years undertaken the charge of the female patients, received the special thanks of Government.

Chemical Examiner.

188. The cases referred to the Chemical Examiner and the analyses performed by him are less than last year. The ratio of detection is about the same except in blood cases, in which the proportion has improved, and in the case of human poisoning the proportion, 65 per cent., the same as that of last year, is considerably below that of 1903. Lack of discrimination in making references and carelessness in preparing cases contribute to the percentage of failure in detection. The poison most usually employed in human cases is arsenic, and after that opium, dhatúra and mercury; for cattle poisoning arsenic is almost exclusively used.

51. Sanitation.

189. The Sanitary Board met five times during 1905 and submitted to the Local Government for sanction a water-supply scheme for Ludhiána at a cost of 4 lakhs, drainage schemes for Chiniot, Jagraon and Amritsar, a project for metering the pipe lines at Lahore, and a suburban drainage scheme at the cost of 3¾ lakhs for Delhi. All these schemes have received the sanction of Government except the last, which is under consideration. Grants-in-aid amounting in all to nearly Rs. 30,000 were sanctioned for drainage schemes at Gujrát, Ballabgarh, Khudián, Pind Dádan Khan, Ambála and Thanesar, and for a water-supply scheme at Núrpur. Rules have been issued by the Punjab Government delegating to the Sanitary Board the power to exercise its discretion in sanctioning grants-in-aid from provincial revenues. No definite orders have yet been received regarding the hydro-electric scheme for increasing the water-supply of Simla and at the same time for lighting the station with electricity. The Simla municipal committee has applied for sanction to undertake this work. New water mains were laid at Simla and Lahore, and proposals made for preventing waste at the latter place; the new water-works at Amritsar were handed over to the municipal committee; progress was made in the execution of drainage schemes at Amritsar, Sargodha, Ráwalpindi, Delhi, Multán, Ambála, Ferozepore, Muktsar, Jagraon and Gujrát. The work of draining and improving the Lahore Mall was completed, and adds greatly to the amenities of the station. The new water works of Sargodha were proceeded with and those of Ambála improved. A scheme for a conservancy tramway at Lahore to carry away refuse from the city was submitted to the Sanitary Board for consideration.

52. Vaccination.

190. Nearly 749,000 vaccinations were performed during 1905-06, giving an increase of over 6 per cent. on the average of the previous five years. The increase is entirely in primary vaccinations; revaccinations show a marked decrease, especially among females. There is a strong prejudice against re-vaccination, especially in the case of females, and this is one of the main obstacles in the path of preventive work. The proportion of successes in primary operations excluding unknown cases is about the same as last year: revaccination shows a greatly improved percentage of success, nearly 84. The glycerinated lymph treated with chloroform which is manufactured at the Central Vaccine Institute has proved most successful. As already stated, there were very few deaths from small-pox this year.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

[For detailed information see the Annual Report on Public Instruction in the Punjab for 1905-06, and the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, table X, Education, and XII, Printing Presses and Newspapers.]

53. General system of Public Instruction.

Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 616-35 of the report of 1901-02.)

54. Education.

General statistics.

191. There are in British territory 3,762 public educational institutions with nearly 211,500 scholars. This is an increase of 706 schools and 26,700 scholars and is due to the movement for extending primary education whereby 699 primary schools were opened. Private schools on the other hand have decreased by 231 and now number 3,636 with about 63,300 scholars. Taking public and private institutions together, the result is that in every 100 towns and villages there are 19 boys' and 3 girls' schools, while of every hundred boys of school-going age 15 go to school, and of every hundred girls only 2. The closing of the Church Missionary Society College at Amritsar reduced the number of Arts Colleges to 10 including the Oriental College, Lahore. Public Secondary Schools increased by 3 to 324 and schools for special instruction by 5 to 35. Public Primary Schools numbered 3,389, an increase of 699. 62 per cent. of the Secondary Schools which by reason of their adopting the departmental requirements are classed as public, are managed by Government or local bodies and the remaining 38 per cent. are under private management as Aided or Unaided Schools. Of Public Primary Schools 70 per cent. are under public management. The expenditure on education was over 49½ lakhs, an increase of over 8½ lakhs. The sources from which this expenditure is met were Imperial revenues 1½ lakhs, provincial revenues, 20 lakhs (an increase of nearly 6 lakhs); fees, 10 lakhs; district funds, 7 lakhs, municipal funds, 3 lakhs, and other sources, 8 lakhs.

Public Examinations.

192. Over 10,000 boys passed the Upper Primary examination, and over a thousand the Middle Vernacular. The Matriculation examination, now generally necessary as a qualification for employment in Government service, was passed by 1,172 out of 2,612 boys who went up for it; 920 candidates appeared in Arts examinations and 429 passed; in Oriental language examinations 320 out of 612 were successful, and 64 out of 89 passed the First Engineering examination. 114 out of 290 obtained their B.A. and 13 out of 46 succeeded in proceeding to the degree of M.A. There were 2 Bachelors of Science and 14 of Laws, 1 Bachelor of Medicine, and 18 Licentiates in Medical Science, and 1 Master of Oriental Learning.

The Punjab University.

193. The 25th Convocation of the Punjab University was held on 23rd December 1905, in the new University Hall, whose construction is one of the features of the year: 194 graduates were admitted to the various degrees. The new regulations drafted in accordance with the Indian Universities Act of 1904 received the sanction of the Local Government, and are now in force. All the colleges of the Province are now affiliated to the University. The first examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Teaching was held early

in the year. Two medals have been endowed, the Arnold Silver Medal by the Anjuman-i-Islámia, and the Sir Harnám Singh-Rivaz Gold Medal by the Hon'ble Kanwar Sir Harnám Singh, Ahlúwália, K.C.I.E.

Arts Colleges.

194. Owing to the closing of the Church Missionary Society College at Amritsar the number of Arts Colleges in British territory was reduced to 9 (1 second grade), with 1 Oriental College. The attendance in the Arts Colleges rose from 1,196 to 1,315 and that in the Oriental College fell from 86 to 81. Of the Arts Colleges, the Dayánand Anglo-Vedic College (346), the Forman Christian College (372), the Government College, Lahore (207), the Khálsa College, Amritsar (91), St. Stephen's College, Delhi (96) and the Islámia College, Lahore (92), all increased their numbers. A scheme for the transference of elementary scientific education from the medical to the arts curriculum has been developed during the year, and a chemistry class has been added in the Government College, Lahore. The tutorial system was introduced in St. Stephen's College and the Dayánand Anglo-Vedic College. In addition to the above there are, as in last year, colleges in Native territory at Patiála, Baháwalpur and Kapurthala.

Professional education:—Law, Medicine and Veterinary Science.

195. Last year's increase in the numbers at the Law College was not maintained: except in that year they have steadily declined since 1898-99 and are now only 88 as compared with 170 in 1905, and 154 in 1903. The Medical College and School also show a decrease in numbers, but in their case it is the first that has had to be recorded for many years; the average number in the College fell from 274 to 260 and in the school from 325 to 292. In the case of the school, the two main causes are the restriction of admission rendered necessary by the insufficiency of material for anatomical purposes, and the raising of the literary test to that of the Entrance Examination. The North India Medical School for Christian Women at Ludhiána had 38 students on the rolls and earned the commendation of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals for, the useful work it performed. Of native systems of medicine, the Yúnáni system is taught through the medium of Arabic at the Delhi Madrassa-i-Tibiya where an arrangement also exists for a course of lectures on Anatomy and Surgery by an English Doctor; and classes in the Vedic and Yúnáni systems are maintained by the Punjab University, the former at the Dayánand Anglo-Vedic College and the latter at the Islámia College. The Veterinary College, Lahore, had 209 students on the rolls as against 153, an increase largely due to the transfer to it of the staff and students of the Ajmer Veterinary School.

Technical education.

196. There is an increase of numbers at the Mayo School of Art, Lahore, from 333 to 380. The results of the examinations are again very satisfactory, and 31 passed students of the year from the school and the Engineering Class are employed on salaries ranging from Rs. 15 to Rs. 100. During the year a boarding house was opened in hired buildings and is already full. A prize scheme has been introduced with competitions in Wood-carving, Metal-work (Repoussé), Metal-work (Blacksmith), Modelling and Decorative Painting. It is hoped to hold an annual exhibition of the work of the students in this connection. The amount of practical work done has been much greater than usual, due principally to the Royal visit, and included the decoration of the dining hall at Government House, Lahore, painting and decorating the large Montgomery Hall, Lahore; alterations and improvements to the Circuit-house, Delhi; the decoration of Government House, Peshávar; designing and erecting triumphal arches; designing and executing one large and several small metal lamps for the Táj at Agra in accordance with Lord Curzon's directions; and various artistic improvements in the Lahore Museum. A series of Industrial Art Pattern Books is being prepared by Mr. Percy Brown, and the one on "Wood-work," with a series of plates, is now nearing completion. The school was honoured by a visit from Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, accompanied by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, on November 29th. The Government School of Engineering is also for the present under the Principal of the Mayo School of Art, and has been taken over from the control of the Punjab University. There were 98 students on the rolls against 57 last year, and 12 students succeeded in gaining employment on salaries ranging from Rs. 30 in

Amritsar to Rs. 200 in South Africa. A series of 12 Magic Lantern Lectures were given by the school of Art; three were delivered by ladies for ladies only and are said to have been greatly appreciated by the *pardanishín* ladies for whom they were intended. The Railway Technical School, Lahore, had 334 names on the rolls, of whom 288 were of the artizan class, for the most part sons of men employed in the North-Western Railway workshops. Muhammadans greatly predominate. With the exception of the infants all learn drawing, and most woodwork; smith's work does not seem popular. Evening classes are established in connection with the same school and meet three times a week. There are a good many other technical institutions of various descriptions in the Province. Industrial schools are maintained by the municipalities of Amritsar (162 students) and Delhi (57) and by the District Board of Ludhiána (123). The Victoria Diamond Jubilee Hindu Technical Institute of Lahore which receives a grant from municipal funds, teaches carpentry, smithing, photography, type-writing, shorthand, rubber stamp making and engraving, and had 83 boys on the rolls. The Dayánand Anglo-Vedic College, Lahore, has classes in tailoring, engineering and drawing. Missions are doing good work in teaching the simpler crafts to children of the poorer classes, notably at Delhi, Gurgaon, Palwal, Pasrúr, Clarkabad and Ludhiána. The Gandharva Mahavidyálaya School continues to teach Hindu music, and the Multán harmonium school teaches the harmonium and singing. There is a Clerical and Commercial School at Amritsar with 67 on the rolls which teaches book-keeping, drafting, short hand and type-writing and the native system of accounts. Similar classes are maintained at the Central Model School, Lahore, and the Mission School, Ráwalpindi.

Secondary Schools for Boys.

197. The opening of an Anglo-Vernacular High School and a Vernacular Middle School has raised the number of Secondary Boys' Schools in British territory to 288, which are made up of 89 High and 89 Middle Schools on the Anglo-Vernacular side (of which 86 are Government or Board Schools, 65 Aided and 27 Unaided), and 2 Vernacular High Schools (1 Aided and 1 Unaided) and 108 Vernacular Middle Board Schools. The number of pupils in the Secondary stage of Anglo-Vernacular Schools is 16,341, an increase of 675, and in Vernacular Schools 4,904, a decrease of 135. The number of agriculturist students rose from 4,510 to 4,927. In the Entrance and equivalent examinations the number of public candidates has been higher in every examination, but the percentage of passes has been lower. On the whole there is a record of good work in the Secondary Schools. There, however, appears a general tendency on the part of the public to despise a purely vernacular education on account of the superior market value of English, and this manifests itself in some Middle Schools in the neglect of the Third Middle Classes especially in Mathematics and the Vernacular subjects; it being equally significant that only eight candidates appeared for the Vernacular Entrance Examination. The experience of the Department is, on the contrary, that a much better grounding is given in Vernacular Middle Schools than in Anglo-Vernacular, and that boys who complete the Middle School course in a Vernacular School and then join an Anglo-Vernacular High School are on the whole better educated than those who have taken a complete course in an Anglo-Vernacular School; and the present policy, in continuation of that which abolished the Anglo-Vernacular Middle Examination, is to strengthen Vernacular Schools up to the Middle Standard, rather than to encourage the early acquisition of English.

Primary Schools for Boys.

198. The number of public Primary Schools for boys in British territory has risen from 2,347 to 2,930, of which 2,107 are Government and Board Schools, 674 Aided and 149 Unaided. The Aided Schools have increased nearly in the same proportion as the Government and Board Schools, many of those returned as Unaided last year having now qualified for a grant. Pupils have increased roughly from 106,500 to 127,000 and there are now over 61,000 agriculturists among them as against under 51,000 last year. Zamíndári Schools have decreased to only 156 and seem likely to be superseded by the new type of village school. 811 Indigenous Schools were examined

for grants, an increase of 197. Indigenous standards are no longer purely individual tests and hence the pupils were examined collectively. The old system of results-grants has been abolished and the block-grant system introduced instead, and this change it is expected will foster the growth of these institutions, and improve the character of the work done by them in the extension of primary education among classes not reached by the ordinary schools. Gurmukhi Schools or classes numbered 35. Schools for low caste children fell from 64 to 53, the American Presbyterian Mission of Gujránwála having closed 8 out of the 20 schools maintained by them. On the whole, the year under review marks a distinct advance in the extension of primary education in consequence of the efforts made throughout the Province in furtherance of the policy, which a favourable condition of finances has enabled Government to embark on, of the diffusion on a more extended scale of elementary education among the masses of the people. 614 new schools were opened during the year with an average attendance of 33 pupils. The enhanced salaries now offered to Primary School teachers will it is hoped increase the supply of qualified men, which is at present far from adequate to the demands of the Province. The abolition of individual tests applied by inspecting officers, the substitution of block-grants for results-grants and the introduction of the new Rural School Course are measures of reform carried out during the year.

Training institutions.

199. The institutions for the training of teachers are the Central Training College and Model School, Lahore, Normal Schools for Men at Lahore, Delhi, Multán, Jullundur and Ráwalpindi; a Normal School for Women at Lahore; and St. Bede's College and Auckland House at Simla, which last two train women teachers for European Schools. There are also six training classes for girls attached to various schools.

The number of students at the Central Training College has gone up in the last four years from 76 to 188. The results in the various examinations compare most favourably with those of former years, and in professional subjects 97 per cent. of the candidates passed. Kindergarten work now forms an important part of the course, Drawing is carefully taught, and Shorthand forms part of the curriculum of the Clerical and Commercial Class. 40 students passed the St. John Ambulance Association Examination, the first examination of the kind held in the Punjab. Physical education is well attended to; games twice a week are compulsory and 133 Gymnastic Teachers' certificates were obtained. A gymnasium and swimming bath are being constructed. All but 3 of the students lived in the boarding-house and their conduct was good. The Central Model School continued to do good work, and its numbers rose to 848. There was an increase in the numbers of each of the 5 Normal Schools for men except Delhi, the total being 422. Continued improvement is shown in the training of students in practical agriculture in all schools except Delhi, which has only recently secured a piece of land for this purpose. At Multán the circular of the Director of Agriculture on the protection of cotton crops from insects was acted on with good results. Practical Mensuration and Drawing continue to be taught in the Normal Schools, and Physical Education was well attended to. The evening continuation classes for Europeans and Natives, which were closed in December 1904, were re-opened and have been fairly well attended. The Normal School for Women has made good progress and now has 53 students. The difficulty that was anticipated of getting teachers to go out and take up appointments has not been realized: they seem to take an interest in their work, and are anxious to go where proper arrangements can be made for them. There is at present a lack of suitable boarding accommodation for the students. St. Bede's College, Simla, passed out 14 trained teachers for European Schools and a similar training class was opened in connection with Auckland House School in March 1906. There are now 3,580 out of 7,066 teachers in boys' schools who are both trained and certificated and 50 out of 739 in girls' schools.

Female education.

200. The opening of an Aided Anglo-Vernacular High School increased the number of High Schools for girls to 12: Middle Schools remained 24 in number, half of which were Vernacular and half Anglo-Vernacular. In these 36 Schools were close on 560 pupils in the Secondary stage. Primary Girls' Schools rose by 116 to 459 with over 19,000 pupils. The foremost districts for female education are Lahore and Amritsar; in secondary education they are about equal in importance, but the Primary Schools for girls are far more numerous and prosperous in Amritsar, the home of Sikhism, a religion which has always especially encouraged the instruction of women and the script of whose sacred books is the general vehicle of female education. The Delhi Division is the most backward. Schools for Muhammadan girls are generally few and not prosperous, the custom of *parda* and the language difficulty being chiefly to blame. Examination results were very satisfactory. Over 1,500 girls passed various examinations, 23 passing the Entrance Examination of the Punjab University. Domestic Economy is taught at the Siálkot Mission School and in one or two other Boarding Schools; Needle work seems as a rule to have made little progress except at Mission Schools. On the whole steady progress appears to have been made everywhere; the upper classes are, it is reported, beginning to see the advantage of educating their girls, and are even anxious to have them brought up under European supervision. The enlargement of the inspecting staff has enabled many schools to be visited which were formerly passed by and gives assurance of the interest of Government in female education. This and the sending out of the first batch of fully-qualified teachers from the Normal School for Women are new factors of the best presage for the growth of female education in the future, and it deserves note that of the six that received the senior certificate all received appointments with salaries of from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 a month.

Education of Europeans.

201. The most important subject of the education of the rapidly growing domiciled European population has continued to receive the careful attention of Government. There has been no increase in the number of schools, but considerable sums have been spent in improving the efficiency of the existing institutions: notably building grants of Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 70,000 were made to the Convent School, Murree, and the Cathedral Girls' High School, Lahore, and special grants of Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 46,000 to Auckland House Girls' School and Bishop Cotton School at Simla. A grant of over two lakhs was also sanctioned as grants for building and appliances to be provided for in the estimates of 1906-07, the main item being Rs. 1,84,000 for rebuilding Bishop Cotton School. The rebuilding of the Lawrence Memorial Asylum, Murree, for which a grant of Rs. 78,000 was sanctioned in 1904-05, is near completion. The great obstacle in the way of progress in boys' schools is the lack of competent teachers, a difficulty which is felt more keenly as time goes on. The supply of trained women teachers from St. Bede's College prevents a similar state of things existing in girls' schools, which consequently show a far more marked tendency to improvement.

Education of Muhammadans.

202. The percentage of boys at school on those of school-going age is among Muhammadans 13 as compared with 16 for Hindús and 18½ for Sikhs, but if Secondary education alone be considered only ½ per cent. of the Muhammadan boys of school-going age are at school, while both Sikhs and Hindús show three times this proportion. There has been however a distinct progress in the year, and the highest percentage of increase for the followers of any one religion is that shown by Muhammadans; the number of Muhammadan boys at public institutions rose by 11,000, and 4,578 passed the various public examinations, a rise of 457. The number of Muhammadan women and girls under instruction rose by 40 per cent. The special fee concessions continue to be enjoyed by Muhammadans, and there are Victoria scholarships in all parts of the Province for their encouragement.

Education of Native Chiefs.

203. The number of pupils at the Aitchison College remained at 71, but the proportion reading in the Government College and in the High and Upper Primary Departments increased, while at the Middle stage there were fewer and none at all in the Lower Primary Department. Of the candidates for

the diploma 50 per cent. were successful, and in the Matriculation Examination all passed. Excluding the case of a boy who was readmitted, the average age of admission was only 11, which is a promising feature. The teaching of Revenue law is the only important addition to the curriculum. Religious instruction continues to be a part of the school course, and is now given in school hours, a plan which is working well and an improvement on the old arrangement. The attempt to make the boys speak English at an early age has proved fairly successful, and it is hoped that in a year or two the standard of spoken English will be materially improved. The College was visited on October 27th, 1905, by His Excellency Lord Curzon, and on November 30th in the same year by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

Private Schools.

204. There is a continued decrease in the numbers and attendance of those unrecognised schools which do not conform to the Departmental or University standards or submit to any public test. This is not to be regretted as there has been a satisfactory increase in the number of schools examined for grants. Lande Mahájani Schools, which teach a script widely used in commercial transactions, continue to be popular with the money-lending and mercantile classes in certain districts, and such schools are encouraged by the Education Department.

Education in Native States.

205. The Colleges in Native States are as in last year those at Patiála Baháwalpur and Kapurthala, the first of which maintains a separate Oriental side Public schools number 244, two more than last year. The number of pupils in both Colleges and Schools increased, especially in Secondary Anglo-Vernacular Schools. The number of ordinary Indigenous Schools has fallen considerably; but the number of *advanced* Indigenous Schools has risen. Only one candidate passed the B. A. Examination. The results of the Intermediate Examinations, though poor, compare rather favourably with those of last year; but those of the Matriculation Examination were worse even than last year, and there was no candidate on the Oriental side. The Vernacular Middle School Examination results show some slight improvement. Good results have been produced by the deputation of an Assistant Inspector to Patiála, and great educational activity is being displayed in Baháwalpur. In all States much has been done to raise the Colleges to a standard that will satisfy the new requirements of the University.

Discipline.

206. Religious teaching is obligatory in all denominational and Mission schools In the secondary departments of almost all recognised Public Schools and in Colleges, Teachers' Associations, Students' Literary Clubs and Debating Societies are maintained. Teachers' Associations are doing useful work in improving the discipline and moral tone of schools, but there is still much room for improvement. Physical training is compulsory in all Government Board and Aided Institutions for boys. Cricket and Football continue to be popular and Tennis and Hockey are now played in some places. Circle tournaments are now held in all circles. Empire Day was this year celebrated throughout the Province. Arrangements are being made for an enquiry as to the eye-sight of all students in Government institutions.

Boarding-houses.

207. There were 301 Boarding-houses (an increase of 8) with over 12,600 residents, of which 25 are for girls. Government maintains in connection with its Arts College at Lahore, its training institutions and its High Schools 43 Boarding-houses, and Local Bodies maintain 153. While many improvements have been made, there remain many Boarding-houses in which the accommodation provided is unsuitable and there are few which have a proper reading-room attached. But the Province maintains its supremacy in the recognition of the principle that a well supervised Boarding-house is a necessary adjunct to every good school, and the proportion of Boarding-houses to Secondary schools is much above the average.

Educational Conference.

208. One result of the Educational Conference held during the year is the opening of commercial classes in certain High Schools, and evening continuation classes at the Central Training College. It is thought that the time has not yet

arrived when the Punjab may have a Central Commercial Institute as recommended by the conference. Most of the recommendations of the Conferences on Female Education and Departmental affairs are under consideration. Those relating to text-books have been referred to the Text-Book Committee, while others concerning changes in the scheme of studies, the revision of standard of examination of Indigenous Schools, exemption from payment of fees of village menials, &c., have already been approved.

55. Literature and the Press.

209. There were 1,959 books and periodicals published in the Punjab in 1905, an increase of 30 per cent. Urdu as usual is the language most used, with 881; Panjábi follows with 514 and English (158) is third. Of the whole number 236 were periodicals, an increase of 84. Religion continues to be the dominating force in literature, as, apart from books classed as religious, most poetical works deal with religion in some aspect. There are a few interesting contributions to theology, among which may be mentioned the Sunan Ab-i-Daud ma' Hashia-i-Aun-ul-Ma'bud, a large work on Muhammadan philosophy, and the lectures on Sikhism by Bhái Sardúl Singh. At the same time the work of translating the sacred writings of the various religions into the vulgar tongues is carried on in the Arsh Granthvali series and the Panjábi Qurán of M. Fíroz-ud-dín of Daska. An important phase of Western thought is represented in the translation under the name of the Wisál-i-Bári of Trine's "In tune with the Infinite." Two more volumes have been added by M. Zaka Ulla to his history of the reign of Queen Victoria, and a valuable translation has been made of the introduction of Ibn Khulladun's History of the Arabs and of the Moslem dynasties of Northern Africa. The popularity of the novel continues to increase, and though the best are translations or adaptions of foreign works, original effort is showing some improvement. The "Lakshmi" is a powerful story of the tyrannies of the Muhammadan Governors of Kashmir and their overthrow by Ranjít Singh. A charming poem in Panjábi is "Ráni Ráj Kaur da Warláp," a touching lament on the death of Rája Súrat Singh. Of periodicals the "Taraqqi", a literary scientific and religious journal published under Christian auspices, is issuing the religious part separately, a step which should widen its sphere of usefulness. The Punjab Education Journal edited by the Reverend Mr. Hildesley of Sanáwar is a new monthly, and a new quarterly journal in the Vernacular has been started entitled the Khálsa Young Men's Magazine. Literature.

10. There were 260 newspapers published in the Punjab during the year 1905; of these 46 were published in English, 192 in Urdu, 1 in Urdu-Arabic, 1 in Hindi and Urdu, 9 in Hindi and 11 in Gurmukhi (Panjábi). Five English and 45 vernacular newspapers were started and 4 English and 45 vernacular ceased to exist during the year, leaving a total of 211 on the register. One paper was published half-yearly, 1 quarterly, 107 monthly, 28 twice a month, 3 three times a month, 106 weekly, 4 twice a week and 3 thrice a week. There were 7 daily papers. There were no Press prosecutions during the year under report. Newspapers.

56. Literary Societies.

211. [See Report for 1901-02. The subject will not be dealt with again till 1911-12.]

57. Arts and Sciences.

212. Great progress has been made during the year in all branches of the Lahore museum. The buildings have been greatly improved in accordance with the designs of the Curator, and many additions have been made to the collection of antiquities, notably a series of 125 pieces of Græco-Bhuddist

sculptures which by the generosity of the Madras Government has been transferred to this museum from that of Madras. Great progress has been made in the classification and arrangement of the exhibits, and the scheme for illustrating the various art industries by means of models showing the craftsman at his trade has been extended by the completion of a model of a metal-working establishment indicating the methods employed by the blacksmith, repoussé worker, goldsmith and coppersmith. Two parallel series of enamels from Multán and Yokohama have been collected to illustrate the different methods used to obtain a somewhat similar result. The museum continues to grow in popularity, and was visited by over 315,000 people; the careful reading of the descriptions and a sensible discussion of the exhibits appear to be increasingly common. Visits to the museum by small classes of scholars under teachers are also noticed. The museum was open for ladies only on 12 days, a privilege taken advantage of by nearly 4,000. It was visited by Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales on November 30th, 1905.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

[Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the following publications :—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for 1905-06; Annual Progress Reports of the Archæological Survey, Punjab and United Provinces Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1906.]

58. Archæology.

Hindu and Buddhist monuments.

213. Great damage has been done by the earthquake to antiquities in the Kángra district. The fort and temples of Kot Kángra are completely destroyed, as is also that of Sidh Náth and Baij Náth. The larger temple at Baij Náth with its famous Saiada inscriptions is however still standing. No damage to ancient buildings has occurred in Chamba city, but there has been much in the valley of the Rávi. Proposals have been made for the restoration where practicable of monuments injured by the earthquake. A number of fresh inscriptions have been discovered in Chamba, and a Buddhist *stupa* at Chaitru in Kángra, the first monument of the kind found in the district. The publication of the numerous inscriptions discovered in Chamba during the last three years is in progress.

Modern monuments and restoration.

214. Two life size stone elephants in black marble were erected at the Delhi gate of the fort at Delhi, from the model sculptured by Mr. Mackenzie. The restoration of the Hayát Bakhsh garden in the same fort was in progress. The statue of John Nicholson by Mr. Brock was erected in the Nicholson garden at Delhi. Near Lahore, the tiled floors of Jehángír's tomb at Shahdara were restored, and the minarets which had been badly shaken by the earthquake were rebuilt.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

[See page 189 of the report for the year 1901-02. The Bishop also exercises ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the Persian Gulf.]

60. Ecclesiastical.

215. There are now two chaplains posted permanently at Quetta, two at the military camps lying between Dunga Gali and Murree during the summer, and one during the winter at Campbellpur. The staff is otherwise as in the report for 1901-02. The churches at Dharmsála and Pálampur were totally destroyed by the earthquake. Proposals are under consideration for rebuilding the former. It is not likely that the latter will be rebuilt, at any rate in the near future, as one result of the earthquake has been that the tea estates have passed largely into native hands and the European community which used to be at Pálampur and the neighbourhood has been dispersed. **Church of England.**

216. The Right Reverend Dr. Godfrey Pelckmans, O.C., died at Dalhousie on the 3rd August 1904 and was succeeded in the Bishopric of Lahore by the Right Reverend Dr. Anthony Fabian Eestermans, D.D., O.C., who was consecrated at Antwerp on the 29th June 1905 and enthroned on the 10th December 1905. **Roman Catholic Church.**

Besides the institutions mentioned in paragraph 709 of the report of 1901-02, there are in the Diocese of Lahore convents for native girls at Maryabad and Khushpur, schools for native boys at Maryabad, Khushpur and Adali, and a presbytery and boarding-house at Dalwal. In the Diocese of Agra the institutions are the same as those mentioned in paragraph 710 of the report except that for St. Francis Day School for boys at Simla should be substituted St. Bede's College for the training of teachers and the higher education of women.

61. Stationery.

217. The Punjab Administration depends on the Stationery Department, Calcutta, for its requirements in this respect. The value of stationery issued to officers in the Punjab during the year aggregated Rs. 1,38,044 as against Rs. 1,11,988 in the previous year. The details are as follows:—Cost of printing paper Rs. 51,292, office stationery Rs. 85,501, and padlocks Rs. 1,251, against Rs. 51,734, Rs. 57,951 and Rs. 2,303 respectively last year.

62. Government Press.

218. The following statement compares the income and expenditure with the value of work turned out during the years 1904-05 and 1905-06 :—

Income.		Expenditure.		Value of work.	
1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
20,730	18,741	1,20,723	1,25,343	1,12,024	1,19,846

The decrease of Rs. 1,989 in income was chiefly due to a reduction in the amount of printing done for the Military Transport Department. The increase of Rs. 4,620 in expenditure was due to extra work in connection with the Royal visit, the earthquake, the Excise Commission and other matters. The value of work increased by Rs. 7,822. The cost of work done by the contractors for Government printing for departments and offices during 1904-05 and 1905-06 was Rs. 49,030 and Rs. 55,740 respectively.